# NOTRE DAME FALLS IN CFP SEMIFINAL

Sports, B1

# Nardo's Pizza brings social media following into SJ

Local, A3

The Herald-Palladium

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JANUARY 2-3, 2021

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# Still getting the most out of life

## Whitcomb resident Jerry Warren, 94, wins statewide assisted living award

**By LOUISE WREGE**
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Jerome "Jerry" Warren of St. Joseph may be 94 years old, but he's still ready for new experiences.

One of his latest adventures was being named the Michigan Assistant Living Association Resident of the Year earlier this year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the banquet announcing his win was pushed back and eventually turned into a Zoom meeting.

So the staff at The Whitcomb Senior Living Community, where he lives, had Tosi's Restaurant in Stevensville deliver a meal to him.

Sticking with his desire for new experiences, he ordered a dish he had never had before – malfatti.

"You probably don't know what malfatti is because I didn't know, either," said Warren, a 1944 graduate of Watervliet High School. "It's like a big, fat cigar. It's a spinach roll covered with a sauce generously in a pan. I thoroughly enjoyed it."

He attributed his long life to having a positive attitude and exercising regularly.

"I enjoy joining activities that The Whitcomb sponsors," he said. "I'm not a couch potato."

And he said he's always looking for new things to do.

Warren has outlived two wives. His first wife died of cancer at the age of 29, leaving him with two young children, ages 2 and 5.

His mother moved in with him to help care for the children until he married again six years later. From this marriage came a third child.

They were married 51 years, until she died two years ago.

"Here I am all alone. I'm looking for love," he said jokingly.

Warren was nominated for the recognition by Heather Starkey, director of lifestyle at The Whitcomb.

"I can't think of anyone more deserving of this award than Jerry," she wrote in the nomination letter. "I have been the director of

See **WARREN**, page A5

Photo provided

**Jerry Warren, 94, says exercise and a positive attitude have helped him live a long and happy life. He recently was named Michigan's Assistant Living Association Resident of the Year.**

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

**Steve Pierangeli took over Friday as the new Berrien County prosecutor. Pierangeli has a number of ideas aimed at reducing youth violence and drug use.**

# Taking aim at youth violence

## Incoming Prosecutor Steve Pierangeli plans a number of new initiatives

**By JULIE SWIDWA**
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Steve Pierangeli has a passion for helping kids be safe and successful.

That is why many of the crime prevention initiatives he has planned for the Berrien County Prosecutor's Office center around children.

"It's important to me to get outside the courthouse and educate people," the new Berrien County prosecutor said.

He is working on a number of initiatives aimed at crime prevention and education, especially when it comes to kids. He'll continue to offer an Internet Safety Program in schools and to community organizations.

"I've got four kids so it's important to me to make our community safer and better for children to grow and learn and be successful," he said.

Pierangeli also is working on a new initiative to address youth gun violence.

"I'll be trying to have victims or families of victims go into the schools with me to share their stories, and some have already agreed to. The idea is for youths to understand the effects of gun violence on the community," he said. "I'll reach out to the schools. I can't force my way in. I'm hoping to do similar presentations at the Boys & Girls Club."

**Steve Pierangeli chats with Assistant Prosecutor Taylor Koch, left, and Victim Advocate Katie Elliott earlier this week at the Berrien County Courthouse.**

Pierangeli said gun violence among young people ages 18-20 is increasing every year.

"We need to get these guns off the street. These kids have no regard for the damage they're causing. They need to hear the ramifications of it. You can't measure the impact gun violence has on the community," he said.

He is also working on presentations to be given to parents and guardians.

"I'll be developing a list of topics," he said. "It's important to me to be out in the community trying to prevent crimes rather than just reacting. I want to be as proactive as I can."

Pierangeli also plans to work with Elvin Gonzalez, who heads up the county's juvenile probation department; and Russell Szwabowski, the assistant prosecutor in charge of juvenile cases, to develop a new diversion program for juveniles facing charges for non-violent crimes, such as stealing.

"This is something we'll tiptoe into. The idea is to see if we can keep kids out of the court system, but never at

See **PROSECUTOR**, page A5

# Deputy rescues woman from burning home

## Sheriff's Dept.'s Michael Pellerito pulls New Buffalo woman to safety from bedroom window

**By HP STAFF**

NEW BUFFALO — A Berrien County sheriff's deputy is being credited with rescuing a woman from her burning home in New Buffalo early Thursday morning.

Deputy Michael Pellerito pulled the woman out a window just as flames and smoke intensified, Lt. Ryan Sullivan said in a news release Thursday.

Police did not release the name of the 72-year-old woman, who was taken to the hospital by a Medic 1 ambulance for treatment of minor injuries, Sullivan said.

Crews were called to the house in the 1400 block of West Water Street by the homeowner, who said she was trapped in her burning house and could not get out, according to Sullivan.

Dep. Pellerito arrived first on the scene as flames engulfed the back corner of the house. Sullivan said Pellerito initially forced his way into the front of the house but was forced back by heavy smoke.

See **RESCUE**, page A5

# Republicans torn over Trump's Electoral College challenge of Biden

**By LISA MASCARO and MARY CLARE JALONICK**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's extraordinary challenge of his election defeat by President-elect Joe Biden is becoming a defining moment for the Republican Party before next week's joint session of Congress to confirm the Electoral College results.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell is urging Republicans not to try to overturn the election, but not everyone is heeding him. Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri vows to join House Republicans in objecting to the state tallies. On the other side of the party's split, GOP Sen. Ben Sasse of Nebraska warns such challenges are a "dangerous ploy" threatening the nation's civic norms.

Caught in the middle is Vice President Mike Pence, who faces growing pressure and a lawsuit from Trump's allies over his ceremonial role in presiding over the session Wednesday.

The days ahead are expected to do little to change the outcome. Biden is set to be inaugurated Jan. 20 after winning the Electoral College vote 306-232. But the effort to subvert the will of voters is forcing Republicans to make choices that will set the contours of the post-Trump era and an evolving GOP.

"I will not be participating in a project to overturn the election," Sasse wrote in a lengthy social media post.

Sasse, a potential 2024 presidential contender, said he was "urging my colleagues also to reject this dangerous ploy."

Trump, the first president to lose a reelection bid in almost 30 years, has attributed his defeat to widespread voter fraud, despite the consensus of nonpartisan election officials that there wasn't any. Of the roughly 50 lawsuits the president and his allies have filed challenging election results, nearly all have been dismissed or dropped. He's also lost twice at the U.S. Supreme Court.

See **CHALLENGE**, page A6

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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**Sunday Weather**
High 37 Low 28

6 50645 49086 7

# In a first, Congress overrides Trump veto of defense bill

By MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congress on Friday overrode President Donald Trump's veto of a defense policy bill, a first by lawmakers since he took office nearly four years ago, ensuring that the measure becomes law.

In an extraordinary New Year's Day session, the Republican-controlled Senate easily turned aside the veto, dismissing Trump's objections to the $740 billion bill and handing him a stinging rebuke just weeks before he leaves the White House.

Trump lashed out on Twitter, saying the Senate missed an opportunity to eliminate protections for social media platforms that he said give "unlimited power to Big Tech companies. Pathetic!!!"

Trump also slammed lawmakers for rejecting his call to increase COVID-19 relief payments to $2,000: "Not fair, or smart!"

The 81-13 vote in the Senate on the widely popular defense bill followed an earlier 322-87 override vote in the House. The bill affirms a 3 percent pay raise for U.S. troops and guides defense policy, cementing decisions about troop levels, new weapons systems and military readiness, personnel policy and other military goals.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said the "sweeping and overwhelmingly bipartisan votes" in the House and Senate "delivered a resounding rebuke to President Trump's reckless assault on America's military and national security."

Trump's veto of the National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA, "would have hurt the health, financial security and safety of our servicemembers, their families, our veterans and our allies and partners worldwide," Pelosi said. "Instead of keeping Americans safe, the president continues to use his final moments in office to sow chaos and undermine our security."

The defense bill, which now has the force of law, "looks after our brave men and women who volunteer to wear the uniform," said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky. "But it's also a tremendous opportunity: to direct our national security priorities to reflect the resolve of the American people and the evolving threats to their safety, at home and abroad. It's our chance to ensure we keep pace with competitors like Russia and China."

The Senate override was delayed after Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., objected to moving ahead until McConnell allowed a vote on the Trump-backed plan to boost COVID relief payments to $2,000. McConnell did not allow that vote; instead he used his parliamentary power to set a vote limiting debate on the defense measure, overcoming a filibuster threat by Sanders and Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York.

## LOTTERIES

**Friday drawings**

**Michigan**

**Poker Lotto**
7C-8C-5D-9D-5H
**Midday Daily 3**
4-0-0
**Midday Daily 4**
6-2-7-6
**Daily 3**
7-2-8
**Daily 4**
4-2-0-6
**Fantasy 5**
01-03-06-27-36
**Estimated jackpot**
$105,000
**Keno**
01-02-05-12-13-16-21-25-29-31-33-41-43-52-53-56-63-65-69-70-71-74
**Mega Millions jackpot**
$401 million
**Powerball jackpot**
$384 million

**Thursday drawings**

**Indiana**

**Cash 5**
16-18-24-26-42
**Estimated jackpot**
$90,000
**Cash4Life**
11-28-40-48-57, Cash Ball: 4
**Quick Draw Midday**
04-09-19-20-21-29-36-42-46-47-49-51-60-63-64-66-72-73-76-79, BE: 42
**Daily Three-Midday**
0-7-5, SB: 9
**Daily Three-Evening**
9-9-5, SB: 9
**Daily Four-Midday**
6-6-8-7, SB: 9
**Daily Four-Evening**
8-0-5-7, SB: 9
**Quick Draw Evening**
03-04-06-10-16-20-32-35-38-46-48-49-50-53-54-58-60-62-68-78, BE: 46

**Illinois**

**Lotto**
02-11-15-24-27-42, Extra Shot: 7
**Estimated jackpot**
$2.9 million
**LuckyDay Lotto Midday**
12-13-19-35-45
**Pick Three-Midday**
5-9-9, Fireball: 2
**Pick Three-Evening**
5-8-4, Fireball: 0
**Pick Four-Midday**
2-3-0-8, Fireball: 9
**Pick Four-Evening**
9-2-3-4, Fireball: 1
**Lucky Day Lotto**
13-30-32-33-38
**Estimated jackpot**
$300,000

*– The Associated Press*


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# Once a model, California now struggles to tame COVID-19

By BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

Ashley Landis / AP

Medical workers remove a stretcher from an ambulance near medical tents outside the emergency room at UCI Medical Center, in Irvine, Calif., on Dec. 17, 2020.

Ben Margot / AP

Ambulances park in front of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital in San Francisco on March 18, 2020.

LOS ANGELES — Ambulances waited hours for openings to offload coronavirus patients. Overflow patients were moved to hospital hallways and gift shops, even a cafeteria. Refrigerated trucks were on standby, ready to store the dead.

For months, California did many of the right things to avoid a catastrophic surge from the pandemic. But by the time Gov. Gavin Newsom said on Dec. 15 that 5,000 body bags were being distributed, it was clear that the nation's most populous state had entered a new phase of the COVID-19 crisis.

Now infections have been racing out of control for weeks, and California remains at or near the top of the list of states with the most new cases per capita. It has routinely set new marks for infections and deaths, and began the new year reporting a record 585 deaths in a single day.

Experts say a variety of factors combined to wipe out the past efforts, which for much of the year held the virus to manageable levels. Cramped housing, travel and Thanksgiving gatherings contributed to the spread, along with the public's fatigue amid regulations that closed many schools and businesses and encouraged – or required – an isolated lifestyle.

Another factor could be a more contagious variant of the virus detected in Southern California, although it's not clear yet how widespread that may be.

California's woes have helped fuel the year-end U.S. infection spike and added urgency to the attempts to beat back the scourge that has killed more than 340,000 Americans. Even with vaccines becoming available, cases are almost certain to continue growing, and yet another surge is expected in the weeks after Christmas and New Year's.

On Friday, the number of confirmed U.S. coronavirus cases surpassed 20 million, nearly twice as many as the No. 2 country, India, and nearly one-quarter of the more than 83 million cases globally, according to data from Johns Hopkins University.

In California, the southern half of the state has seen the worst effects, from the agricultural San Joaquin Valley to the Mexico border. Hospitals are swamped with patients, and intensive care units have no more beds for COVID-19 patients. Makeshift wards are being set up in tents, arenas, classrooms and conference rooms. Some hospitals are having difficulty keeping up with the demand for oxygen.

Hospitalizations statewide have gone up more than eightfold in two months and nearly tenfold in Los Angeles County. On Thursday, the total number of California deaths surpassed 25,000, joining only New York and Texas at that milestone.

"Most heartbreaking is that if we had done a better job of reducing transmission of the virus, many of these deaths would not have happened," said Barbara Ferrer, the county's public health director, who has pleaded with people not to get together and worsen the spread.

Crowded houses and apartments are often cited as a source of spread, particularly in Los Angeles, which has some of the densest neighborhoods in the U.S. Households in and around LA often have several generations – or multiple families – living under one roof. Those tend to be lower-income areas where residents work essential jobs that can expose them to the virus at work or while commuting.

The socioeconomic situation in LA County is "like the kindling," said Paula Cannon, a professor of microbiology and immunology at the University of Southern California. "And now we got to the stage where there was enough COVID out in the community that it lit the fire."

Home to a quarter of the state's 40 million residents, LA County has had 40 percent of the state's deaths and a third of its 2.3 million cases. The virus has hit Latino and Black communities harder.

Cannon said there's a moral imperative for people who can follow stay-home orders to help prevent spread that is harder to contain in other areas.

"What you can't do is say to people, 'Can you stop living in a house with eight other people, five of whom are working essential worker jobs?'" she said. "This is the structure that we can't change in LA. This is, I think, contributing to why our levels have suddenly got scarily high and looks like they're going to keep going up and keep staying that way."

In March, during the early days of the pandemic, Newsom was hailed for issuing the nation's first state stay-home order.

The Democrat eased business restrictions in May, and when a broader restart led to another surge, imposed more rules. In early December, with cases out of control, he issued a looser stay-home order. He also closed businesses such as barbershops and salons, halted restaurant dining and limited capacity in retail stores. The latest restrictions apply everywhere except in rural Northern California.

But Dr. Lee Riley, an infectious diseases professor at the University of California at Berkeley, said that while the state managed to flatten the curve of rising cases, it never effectively bent the curve downward to the point infections would die out.

When cases rose in June and July, California was never able to do enough contact tracing to isolate infected people and those they may have exposed before they spread the disease – often unwittingly – to others, he said. And public health directives were never adequately enforced.


## Watervliet Schools Announces Winter 2021 School of Choice Openings

Watervliet Public Schools announces that the district will accept applications from non-resident students for the Winter Semester of the 2020-2021 school year beginning January 4, 2021. The application period will remain open until January 15, 2021.

To be eligible for Schools of Choice, applicants must be a resident of a district within an intermediate school district contiguous to the boundaries of the educating district's intermediate school district. Transportation will not be provided for non-resident students. The non-resident applicant's district of residence will be asked to provide information for evaluating the student's application. Watervliet Public Schools may refuse to enroll a non-resident applicant who has been expelled and/or suspended within the preceding two years from school or has a poor attendance record at their resident district.

If the number of qualified non-resident applicants exceeds the enrollment allotments available, the district will use a random draw system that complies with State & Federal anti-discrimination laws. Applications not accepted by the random draw will be placed on a waiting list.

**The following grade level openings are available for the 2020-21 School Year:**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Young 5's** | 0 | **Grade 4:** | 12 | **Grade 9:** | 11 |
| **Kindergarten:** | 7 | **Grade 5:** | 5 | **Grade 10:** | 11 |
| **Grade 1:** | 0 | **Grade 6:** | 13 | **Grade 11:** | 2 |
| **Grade 2:** | 0 | **Grade 7:** | 11 | **Grade 12:** | 0 |
| **Grade 3:** | 0 | **Grade 8:** | 19 | | |

To obtain an application form or for further information contact Deah Muth at 463-0300 or stop by the Superintendent's office located in Watervliet High School.

# hp LOCAL & STATE

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

Nardo, owner of Nardo's Pizza, removes a mushroom and pepperoni pizza from a baking tray while working out of the basement of Schu's Grill & Bar in downtown St. Joseph.

## 'That best kept secret'

### Nardo's Pizza brings social media following into downtown SJ

**By TONY WITTKOWSKI**
HP Staff Writer

Nardo prepares one of his signature Detroit style pepperoni pizzas in the basement of Schu's Grill & Bar in downtown St. Joseph.

ST. JOSEPH — There's a hidden gem in downtown St. Joseph that's comprised of cheese and dough.

For the past two weeks, Nardo's Pizza has been operating below Schu's Grill & Bar. The new pizzeria, which is run by a man who calls himself Nardo, has gathered a large following over social media.

NARDO

"We opened on Dec. 12," Nardo said. "There's been a lot of good buzz online. We were kind of keeping it on the down low, but it's blown up."

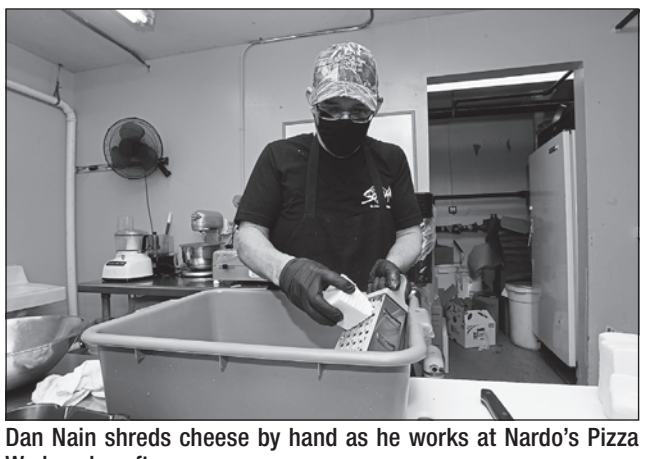
Nardo's Pizza has some roots from the Baroda Pizza Co.

Before the Baroda Party Store took over Baroda Pizza Co., Nardo was running the store. However, he closed it down in March when the pandemic began and turned the keys over to the party store.

A few months went by and Jim Kramer, owner of Schu's, reached out to Nardo to see if he could bring back the pizza that he made popular in Baroda.

"I happened to be doing nothing when he came calling," said Nardo, who compares his use of one name to the late recording artist Prince.

Nardo's affiliation with Kramer began in 2014, when he did some prep work for Schu's before holding a few pizza nights at the St. Joseph eatery.



Dan Nain shreds cheese by hand as he works at Nardo's Pizza Wednesday afternoon.

#### A different style

Being two blocks from Silver Beach Pizza, Nardo said he wanted to do something different.

"I have a regular menu, and a hashtag menu with special pizzas," Nardo said.

His eclectic menu includes pies with dill pickle, a barbecue mac and cheese iteration, as well as a gyro pizza.

His pizzas come in two different styles: New York and Detroit.

Having grown up in the metro Detroit area, Nardo wanted to bring a slice of his hometown to Southwest Michigan. However, he refers to Detroit-style pizza as red top pan pizza.

"It's based off a Sicilian-style pizza, which to me is the best style you can get," Nardo said. "The crust is crispy. It's a quality pie."

Nardo said he supports local businesses by acquiring local produce. He said the support has gone both ways as several eateries have hosted him for collaborations.

The cost is low to operate out of Schu's, which will help Nardo in raising funds to get a venue of his own. While Nardo has an idea of where he would like to set up, he doesn't want to make it public until it's more set in stone.

"Right now, we are trying to be that best kept secret. We have a lot of great things in store for people," Nardo said. "I like to interact with people. If it wasn't for the customers or the loyal following, there would be no Nardo's Pizza or Baroda Pizza. The customers drive us. They fuel the creativity that we do."

Nardo's Pizza is closed on Mondays, but open 4-8 p.m. on Tuesdays through Sundays.

*Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @Tony Wittkowski*

Photo provided

Tiffany and Timothy Brand of Buchanan are the proud new parents of a daughter, Raven Sierra Brand. She was the first baby born in 2021 at The BirthPlace at Spectrum Health Lakeland Niles Hospital.

## Lakeland welcomes first baby of 2021

**By HP STAFF**

NILES — The first baby of the year was welcomed at 3:03 a.m. Friday by The BirthPlace at Spectrum Health Lakeland Niles Hospital.

Tiffany and Timothy Brand of Buchanan are the proud new parents of a daughter, Raven Sierra Brand. She weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and measured 20 inches long.

In keeping with the annual tradition, the family received gift baskets from the Spectrum Health Lakeland Auxiliary and an anonymous community donor.

Spectrum Health Lakeland is served by a team of 23 obstetrics and gynecology providers, including physicians, nurse practitioners, and certified nurse midwives; 80 nurses; and 34 support staff. High-risk pregnant women and women with chronic illnesses considering pregnancy also have local access to advanced levels of care through a partnership with maternal fetal medicine specialists at Spectrum Health Medical Group.

"With the first birth of the new year, we pause to reflect on 2020 which has presented challenges unlike ever before," said Benjamin Wood, DO, medical director of obstetrics, Spectrum Health Lakeland. "At Spectrum Health Lakeland, our team remains committed to provide safe, high quality obstetrics care to our patients and their growing families. We look forward to continuing to care for our local communities in the year ahead."

For more information about the BirthPlace, visit spectrumhealthlakeland.org/birthplace.

## Lakeland BirthPlace lists top baby names for 2020

### Charlie, Sophia take top honors

**By LOUISE WREGE**
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Charlie for boys and Sophia for girls topped the list when it came to naming the 1,356 babies born in 2020 at Spectrum Health Lakeland BirthPlace in Niles and St. Joseph.

How does this compare to the top baby names around the world?

According to babycenter.com, Sophia was the most popular girls' name for the 11th year in a row in 2020.

But the name Charlie wasn't even in the top 100 baby names for boys. Instead, Charlie showed up as number 27 for girls.

The most popular name for boys was Liam, which didn't make the top 10 locally.

The top 10 boy names reported by Spectrum Health Lakeland BirthPlace were:

1. Charlie
2. Oliver
3. Elijah
4. Jordan
5. Thomas
6. Hunter
7. Julian
8. Lincoln
9. Lucas
10. Noah

The top 10 girl names were:

1. Sophia
2. Evelyn
3. Paisley
4. Autumn
5. Willow
6. Ella
7. Amarah
8. Avery
9. Blakelynn
10. Layla

For more information about the BirthPlace, visit spectrumhealthlakeland.org/birthplace

*Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege*

## BERRIEN COUNTY TRIAL COURT

### Sentences

### St. Joseph

### Drugs

Kayla J. Masters, 23, of Little Paw Paw Lake Road, Coloma, $705 in fines and costs and 9 months probation for use of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, Sept. 15, 2019, in Benton Township.

Randy W. Clark, 22, of Berrien Avenue, Benton Harbor, 88 days in jail, credit for 88 days served, $2,498 in fines and costs, 18 months probation and driver's license suspended for 180 days for possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, Jan. 17, 2019, in Bainbridge Township.

### Assault

Will O. Jakes, 27, of Jennings Avenue, Benton Harbor, 41 days in jail, credit for 41 days served, and $125 in costs for domestic violence second offense, an assault on a woman, March 7 in Benton Harbor.

William R. Cable, 51, of East St. Joseph Street, Watervliet, 180 days in jail and $198 in costs for domestic violence third offense, an assault on a woman, May 31 in Watervliet.

### Drunken driving

Wyatt L. Brooks, 24, of East Baldwin Avenue, Watervliet, two concurrent terms of 75 days in jail, credit for 2 days served, $2,568 in fines and costs, 90 days on SCRAM tether and 2 years probation for operating while intoxicated, second offense; and fourth-degree fleeing police Sept. 6 in Watervliet.

### Vehicle theft

Eric R. Boudreau, 30, of South Old U.S. 31, Berrien Springs, 23 days in jail, $2,488 in fines and costs, $698 in restitution and 18 months probation for unlawfully driving away a motor vehicle Sept. 13 in St. Joseph.

### Tampering with tether

Daniel J. Smith, 25, of Beverly Court, Benton Harbor, 90 days in jail and $198 in costs for tampering with an electronic device, removing a jail tether, Aug. 29 in Benton Township.

### Assaulting / resisting police

Martina M. Haynes, 35, of Sutherland Avenue, Watervliet, 150 days in jail and $198 in costs for assaulting/resisting and obstructing Coloma Township Police Officer Michael Prince Oct. 23 in Watervliet.

### Niles

### Assault

Barry A. Rippinger, 52, of East Bertrand Road, Niles, 2-5 years in prison, credit for 64 days served, and $198 in costs for domestic violence third offense, an assault on a woman, Oct. 22 in Niles Township; and a concurrent term of 2-5 years and $68 in costs for third-degree home invasion Oct. 29 in Niles Township.

### Breaking & entering

Seth T. Lipscomb, 49, of Sheridan Avenue, Niles, 19 months to 10 years in prison, credit for 113 days served, and $198 in costs for breaking and entering a building with intent; a concurrent term of 113 days for breaking and entering a coin-operated device; and a concurrent term of 70 days for contempt of court, a bond violation, March 22 in Niles.

### Drugs

Heather L. Staggs, 32, of South 11th Street, Niles, 30 days in jail, $598 in fines and costs, 2 years probation and driver's license suspended for 1 year for possession of narcotics, less than 25 grams cocaine, July 22 in Niles.

## IN BRIEF

### Dowagiac man dies in traffic accident

DOWAGIAC — A 52-year-old man from the Dowagiac area died in a traffic accident Friday on Highway M-51 near Wells Street in Cass County, according to a report from the Michigan State Police Niles Post.

Troopers reported that a vehicle on the highway lost control and crossed the centerline, resulting in a head-on crash with another vehicle. The driver of one of the vehicles, who was not wearing a seatbelt, was pronounced dead at the scene. His name is being withheld pending notification of family.

Inclement weather contributed to the crash.

MSP were assisted by Pokagon Tribal Police Department, the Cass County Sheriff's Department and the Pokagon Fire Department.

### Man dies in Benton Township with gunshot to head

BENTON TOWNSHIP – The investigation is continuing after a man died from a single gunshot to the head Wednesday in Benton Township.

Benton Township police reported that they were dispatched to 2165 Ruth Ave. for a report of a male who had been shot in the head. Officers found the victim in the driver's seat of a vehicle. Life saving measures were performed, however the victim died from his injuries.

His identity is being withheld pending next-of-kin notification.

Police reported that they do not believe there are any outstanding suspects and no immediate threat to public safety.

# OBITUARIES

## Alan Beach

July 1, 1942 – Dec. 26, 2020

Alan Beach, 78, of St. Joseph passed away Saturday, Dec. 26, 2020. at his home.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021, at St. Bernard Catholic Church, 555 E. Delaware Ave., Benton Harbor, with Fr. James Adams officiating. Friends may visit from 10 to 11 a.m., Thursday at the church. Burial will be held at Fort Custer National Cemetery in Battle Creek. Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Those wishing to share a memory of Alan online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Alan was born on July 1, 1942, in Cassopolis, to Samuel and Freda (Cloud) Beach. He graduated from Edwardsburg High School and then received his bachelor's degree from Lakeland College.

Alan served his country in the U.S. Air Force from 1964 to 1967.

On June 7, 1975, he married Rosanna Myrick in Benton Harbor.

Alan worked for Auto Specialties and Modern Plastics as an accountant. He was a member of St John & Bernard Catholic Parish, and the St. Joseph Elks Lodge. Alan also was involved with Blossomtime and the Boy Scouts. In his spare time, he enjoyed cooking and winters in Florida with his wife.

Alan is survived by his wife, Rosanna Beach; son, Sam (Beth) Beach; daughter, Leeanna (Roger, II) Holmes; grandchildren: Killian Beach, Aidan Beach, Courtney (Justin) Taglavore, Roger Holmes III, Kaylee Holmes and Kathrine Lennon; great-grandchildren: Bella and Emma Taglavore; mother-in-law, Dorothy Myrick; and many nieces, nephews, and in-laws.

Allan was preceded in death by his parents; and siblings: Doris Beach, Edwin (Betty) Beach and Roldo Beach.

## Wanda Joy Rogers

Dec. 13, 1934 – Dec. 11, 2020

Wanda Joy Rogers, 85, of Dahlonega, Ga., passed away peacefully Friday, Dec. 11, 2020, at her residence in Dawsonville, Ga.

She was born on Dec. 13, 1934 in Greenbriar, Ark., the daughter of the late Earl Mitchell and Oscie Pearl Satterwhite. She was a retired social worker for the state of Michigan, and very much involved in serving others in her church, community, country and abroad throughout her lifetime.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Ed Rogers; and her brothers: Jerry Satterwhite, Larry Satterwhite and Gary Satterwhite, respectively.

Wanda is survived by daughter, Ginger Ann Haney, and son-in-law, Ron Haney; son, Matthew Kent Rogers, and daughter-in-law Jennie-Vitty Rogers; grandson, Zak Morse; granddaughters: Mary Haney and Elizabeth Haney; great-grandchildren: Jacob, Akira, Rowan, Ari, Jasper, Jade and Jasmine Pearl; sisters: Billie Ryan, Barbara Hu, Clara Perkey and Gloria Riggs; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Wanda will always be remembered as kind, loving, compassionate and caring, making a difference, sharing laughter and cheer everywhere she went. She lit up the room, was full of life, had the most excellent sense of humor and an extremely contagious laugh, all of which will be greatly missed.

A celebration of life is planned for May, 2021. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions to reputable Alzheimers research organizations, Hospice, or a charity of your choice.

## Phillip Fisk

Dec. 6, 1947 – Dec. 30, 2020

Phillip Fisk, 73, of Dowagiac passed away at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph, on Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2020, after a brief illness.

Phillip was born, the twin brother of Cathy Fisk, on Dec. 6, 1947, to the late Phillip and Catherine (Vrooman) Fisk.

After graduating from Berrien Springs High School in 1966, Phillip went on to attend Michigan State University, where he obtained his engineering degree. He worked for several companies locally, the most recent being Auto Specialties.

Philip was a long-time member of the Hampshire Country Club, where he won several golfing club championships. Phil was very intelligent and talented, whether it was working on computers, wiring his home after being wheelchair bound, or building golf clubs. In his free time he would enjoy an occasional drink while watching TV, his favorite shows being old western's, Perry Mason, or Matlock.

Phillip was preceded in death by his parents; and twin sister, Helen "Cathy" Fisk.

Funeral services will be at noon on Monday, Jan. 4, 2021, at Brown Funeral Home, with a time of visitation beginning at 11 a.m. A private interment will follow at Mission Hills Memorial Gardens.

Memorial contributions may be made in Phillip's memory to the Brian Parker Foundation. Condolences, photos and memories may be left for the family at www.BrownFuneralHomeNiles.com.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, of Niles.

## Earnest Hester Jr

Dec. 9, 1935 – Dec. 25, 2020

Earnest Hester Jr., 85, of Benton Harbor is resting in peace in the arms of the Lord. He passed on Friday, Dec. 25, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. A Celebration of Home Going service and burial will be at noon, Monday, Jan. 4, 2021, at North Shore Memory Gardens, Coloma, officiated by the Rev. Autry, Union Memorial Church.

Out of respect for the family and guests in attendance, masks and social distancing will be required. Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchiner.com. A video of the service will be made available online for viewing by family and friends.

Earnest was born in Hughes, Ark., to Earnest and Estella (McClendon) Hester.

Earnest and Inez-Burton Guidry-Hester were married April 22, 2014.

Earnest was a semi truck driver/mechanic. He received a certificate from Electric Company Farm Welding School under G.R. Closson & Son. He attended Lake Michigan College, completing an auto mechanic program as the top student. Earnest was employed by Signal Delivery Service, United Parcel Service and Lake Shore Motor Trans as an over the road mechanic. He ended his career at Manufactures Freight. Earnest enjoyed playing bid wiz, hunting and was a 33rd degree Mason. He loved to barbecue and cook for his family on Saturday mornings.

Earnest is survived by his wife, Inez Hester; his children: Deloris (Earnest) Brown of Collierville Tenn., Sheila (Cle Swagian) Whatley, Sharon Hester, and Yvonne Hester, all of Benton Harbor, Tonette Hester, and Garry (Sandra) Hester of Kalamazoo, Elizabeth (Edward Johnson) Pargo of Benton Harbor, Earnest Breeon (Trecia) Hester III of Dumas, Ark., Vernon Guidry of Benton Harbor, Darrell Guidry and Charles Brown of Augusta, Ga., Rosia Brown and Bernadette Brown of Detroit, Tina Lavondo of St. Louis, Terrance Burton and Mary Burton of Kalamazoo, and Olajuwon Burton and Shaquille Burton of Madison, Wis.

Earnest is survived by his siblings: Ida B. Meeks, Doris (Frank W.) Cooper, Russell Hester of Benton Harbor, Gloria (Roy) Shurn of St. Joseph; and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and friends too numerous to list.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Lula Mae Rolf; and a brother, Alfred G. Hester.

## James Cooper

March 7, 1919 – Dec. 29, 2020

James Howard Cooper, 101, of Bridgman passed away peacefully Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020, at his home in the care of his family.

Funeral services and military rites will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021, at Pike Funeral and Cremation Services, Boyd Chapel, 9191 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman, with the Rev. David Londot Sr. officiating. Friends may meet with the family from 1 to 2 p.m. prior to the service. Burial will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 8, 2021, in Greenwood Cemetery in Petoskey, Mich.

Memorial contributions can be made to Caring Circle of Lakeland, 4025 Health Park Lane, St. Joseph, MI 49085. Online condolences accepted at www.PikeFH.com.

James was born on March 7, 1919, in Levering, Mich., the son of the late Royden and Esta (Williams) Cooper.

On Aug. 3, 1940, he married Eva-Mae Pulsipher and she preceded him in death on April 30, 2018.

Following his graduation from Petoskey High School in 1937, he joined the U.S. Navy and was a veteran of World War II. Jim and Eva resided in Petoskey unitl 1951, when he accepted a position with Eaton Corporation in Battle Creek. He retired from Eaton Corp. in Cleveland after 31 years of service in 1982. He has lived in Bridgman since 1997.

Survivors include his daughters: Betty (Johnny) Jackson, and Mary Cooper; six grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; great-great-grandchildren; and a special caregiver "daughter," Nadja Hodges.

Jim was also preceded in death by a daughter, Marjorie Carlson.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Boyd Chapel of Pike Funeral and Cremations Service, 9191 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman.

## Kimberly Ann Cheatham

April 28, 1965 – Dec. 29, 2020

Kimberly Ann Cheatham, 55, of Dowagiac died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020, at Rose Arbor Hospice in Kalamazoo.

Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021, at Caldwell Cemetery in Eau Claire. Bowerman Funeral Home, Eau Claire, is assisting with arrangements, and messages for the family may be left online at www.bowermanfuneral.com.

Kimberly was born April 28, 1965, in Dowagiac, the daughter of Donald and Mary (Deuel) Sullender. She was a homemaker taking care of her children, as well as working on the farm, and she loved to go fishing and to the casino. In whatever she did, she always put others before herself.

She is survived by her mother, Mary Stilwell of Sodus; four sons, Scott Cheatham, Dustin Stilwell, Ryan Cheatham and Anthony Cheatham; her daughter, Amber Cheatham; six grandchildren; her sister, Billie Leitz; and two brothers, Donnie and Adam Sullender.

She was preceded in death by her father.

## Death notices

**William Archer,** 74, of Niles died Dec. 30, 2020, at home. Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

**Alan Beach,** 78, of St. Joseph died Dec. 26, 2020, at home. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

**Jon Ross Berry,** 80, of Sawyer died Dec. 8, 2020. Connelly Chapel, Wagner Family Funeral Home, Cassopolis, 445-2435.

**Kimberly Ann Cheatham,** 55, of Dowagiac died Dec. 29, 2020. Bowerman Funeral Home, Eau Claire, 461-4241.

**James Howard Cooper,** 101, of Bridgman died Dec. 29, 2020, at home. Pike Funeral Home, Boyd Chapel, Bridgman, 465-3239.

**Phillip Fisk,** 73, of Dowagiac died Dec. 30, 2020. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

**Ronald W. Hass,** 68, of Eau Claire died Dec. 29, 2020. Bowerman Funeral Home, Eau Claire, 461-4241.

**Earnest Hester Jr.,** 85, of Benton Harbor died Dec. 25, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

**Rodney Dee Eddie Lee Little,** 67, of Bald Knob, Ark., died Dec. 26, 2020, at home. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

**Wanda Joy Rogers,** 85, of Dahlonega, Ga., died Dec. 11, 2020, at home.

**Kimberly Simpson,** 56, of Niles died Jan. 1, 2021, at Lakeland Medical Center, in St. Joseph. Brown Funeral Home, Niles, 683-1155..

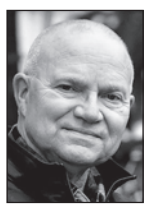
**Ronald Woods,** 57, of Niles died Dec. 30, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Brown Funeral Home, Niles, 683-1155.

**Sophie Wutzke,** 83, of Stevensville died Dec. 24, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Pike Funeral Home, Boyd Chapel, Bridgman, 465-3239.

**Kim Zimmerman,** 75, of Three Rivers died Dec. 31, 2020, at home. Brown Funeral Home, Niles, 683-1155.

## Ronald W. Hass

April 16, 1952 – Dec. 29, 2020



Ronald W. Hass, 68, of Eau Claire passed away Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020.

Ronald was born to the late Eamil and Thelma (Goldner) Hass of Eau Claire. After graduating from Eau Claire High School, Ronald married Jeanne (Griffin) Hass.

Ronald was a hard-working and humble man. He was a loving and devoted husband and father. He was a loyal friend. A local business owner, servicing southwest Michigan for nearly 50 years as a self-employed roofing contractor, Ron was an active member of his community. Ron loved spending time with his family and friends, hunting, and fishing.

Ronald was preceded in death by his parents; nephew, Kerry Hass; and sisters-in-law: Ruth Hass and Cynthia Griffin.

Ronald is survived by his wife of 48 years, Jeanne; sons, Benjamin (Leah Hoge) and Christopher (Kathy) Hass; daughter, Melissa (Stephen) Rossiter; grandchildren, Molly Rossiter, Hanley and Nora Hass; brothers, James and John (Connie) Hass; sisters, Jean (Terry) Rockwell and Susan (Robert) Guse. He is also survived by his uncle Donald (Lorraine) Hass; and a multitude of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Funeral services will be Friday, Jan. 8, 2021, at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church in Sodus, according to COVID-19 guidelines, with a visitation at 1 p.m. and a celebration of Ron's life starting at 2 p.m. A private graveside service will follow at Shanghai Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Chapel Hill United Methodist Church or Caring Circle of Lakeland. Online messages to www.bowermanfuneral.com.

## Sophie Wutzke

May 3, 1937 – Dec. 24, 2020

Sophie Wutzke, 83, of Stevensville passed away Thursday, Dec. 24, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph.

Memorial contributions may be given to Your Story Hour, P.O. Box 15, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. Burial will be at Graceland Cemetery, Bridgman. Online condolences accepted at www.PikeFH.com.

Sophie was born on May 3, 1937, in Cacinci, Yugoslavia (Croatia), the daughter of the late Peter and Sophia (Brauchler) Riess.

On Jan. 2, 1955, she married Willibald Wutzke and he preceded her in death on Nov. 10, 2012. Sophie and Willi were members of Pioneer Memorial Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Berrien Springs. Sophie enjoyed spending time with her loved ones, was an avid baker, and treasured her many years with her water aerobics friends.

Survivors include her son, David (Jenny Ford) Wutzke of Rogers, Ark.; daughter, Esther Penn of Stevensville; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Sophie was preceded in death by a son, Alfred Wutzke in 2005; and brothers: Friedrich Riess in 1934, Jakob Riess in 1941 and Philipp Riess in 2014.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Pike Funeral and Cremation Services, Boyd Chapel. 9191 Red Arrow Hwy, Bridgman.

# Should vaccine volunteers now get the real thing?

By MARION RENAULT
Associated Press

Tens of thousands of Americans have volunteered to test COVID-19 vaccines, but only about half of them got the real thing during trials.

Now, with the first vaccine rollouts and a surge in coronavirus infections, experts are debating what to do about the half that got a dummy shot.

Should everyone now be offered a vaccine? Or should the two groups in the Pfizer and Moderna studies remain intact in order to collect long-term data on how well the vaccines work?

"There's a real tension here," said Dr. Jesse Goodman, an infectious disease specialist and former chief scientist at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. "There's not an easy answer."

### How vaccine studies work

New drugs, vaccines or treatments usually go through rigorous tests and evaluations before reaching regulators for approval.

For vaccines, researchers compare what happens when a large group of volunteers gets the shots, versus what happens to another large group that doesn't. They compare side effects in each group. And they measure the vaccine's effectiveness by looking at how many in each group pick up infections.

To do this fairly, researchers randomly assign participants to receive a vaccine or a dummy shot, usually a dose of salt water.

Volunteers know there's a 50-50 chance they could be put in either group – and they are not told which group they landed in. Often, the researchers or others involved in the testing are also "blinded" and don't know either.

### Should test volunteers be told?

About 17,000 of Moderna's study participants received a placebo, as did about 22,000 people in Pfizer's trial.

With the ongoing coronavirus crisis, health experts worry about leaving them in the dark and unprotected. They argue they should be given a vaccine now in recognition of their willingness to be a part of the trials during the pandemic.

The companies would have to "unblind" or "unmask" the studies, revealing whether participants got the vaccine or the dummy shot.

Unmasking is usually done at the end of testing. Moderna and Pfizer, though, designed their studies to last two years to do long-term follow-up.

## Getting it straight

The Herald-Palladium makes every effort to ensure accuracy in its stories.

If you think there is an error, please contact the editor of the page on which it occurred. If you are unsure of whom to contact, call Local News Editor Dale Brewer at 429-3797.

## Correction

A recent list of Good Fellow Fund donations should have included that Beverly Selent's donation was in memory of Jeanette Catania, and that Frank and Peggy Alsup's donation was in memory of Douglas Alsup.

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## WARREN

From page A1

lifestyle for the past two years, and Jerry has been my biggest cheerleader for the success of the activities program. I have interacted with many residents over the years but have only seen a few with the positive impact that Jerry has on his fellow neighbors, the Whitcomb staff and community members."

Starkey said people gain a positive outlook on the aging process when listening to his wit and humor. Starkey noted that Warren is the first to sign up for volunteer assignments and encourages other residents to do the same.

Mary Garrett, marketing and admissions director at The Whitcomb, said winning the award has been really fun for Warren.

"He's like a little kid at Christmastime," she said. "He's such a sweetheart."

That doesn't mean Warren's senior years haven't had their challenges.

Five years ago Warren slipped on black ice and broke his neck. He now walks with a walker.

Before the accident, part of his exercise routine was walking to the Maud Preston Palenske Memorial Library about four blocks away, where he would pick up movies for Starkey to show the residents. Warren hopes to be able to do that again one day, even if it's with a walker.

Meanwhile, Warren walks up and down the halls of The Whitcomb for exercise. He also participates in yoga and "stretchercize" classes.

Warren's background includes a stint in the U.S. Navy during World War II, after graduating high school. He didn't see any combat, for which he was grateful. It was about three months after he joined, in 1945, that the nuclear bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which brought about the end of the war.

After spending three-and-one-half years in the Navy, he attended college through the GI Bill and graduated with a business degree.

Warren returned to Southwest Michigan in 1951, where he worked for Whirlpool Corp. in Benton Harbor for 38 years in the procurement department before retiring.

*Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege*

Photo provided

**Jerry Warren of St. Joseph is shown with his grandmother, Emma Williams, in the mid-1940s, when Warren was serving in the Navy.**

# Del. man in plot to kidnap Gov. Whitmer seeks release

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — A Delaware man charged with plotting to kidnap the governor of Michigan is asking to be released from prison as he awaits court hearings.

The News Journal in Delaware reports that federal prosecutors say in court filings that Barry Croft Jr. is a "violent extremist" and that releasing him would be "unreasonable." Prosecutors describe Croft as one "ringleader" in a plot to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

After Croft was arrested in October, he appeared in Delaware District Court and consented to his case being transferred to Michigan, where all of his co-defendants are charged.

Croft hasn't been able to appear in Michigan court because of delays in prisoner transfers out of the Philadelphia federal prison where he is jailed.

Federal officials writing in court documents said prisoner transfers were temporarily postponed and prison officials are currently working through a backlog of transfers. Croft's attorney argued the "unreasonable delay" is "frustrating" Croft's ability to build his defense against the charges.

## RESCUE

From page A1

With help from Berrien County 911 dispatchers, who had kept the woman on the phone, Pellerito was guided to the trapped woman's location and pulled her to safety from a bedroom window.

Medic 1 paramedics treated the woman at the scene for minor smoke inhalation, then took her to the hospital, Sullivan said.

Crews responding to the fire besides the Berrien County Sheriff's Department were New Buffalo police, the New Buffalo Fire Department and the New Buffalo Township Fire Department.

*Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa*

## PROSECUTOR

From page A1

the expense of community safety," Pierangeli said. "If they successfully complete the program, they wouldn't be charged and would not have a criminal record, but they have to earn it. If they fail, we can still take them to court."

Pierangeli foresees the program involving things like community service, attending victim impact panels, and receiving substance abuse evaluation and treatment.

Pierangeli has assigned assistant prosecuting attorney Amy Byrd to work with the Southwest Enforcement Team on serious drug-trafficking cases.

"We have a lot of kids involved in drug transactions. The drug dealers are preying on kids," Pierangeli said. "I'm not talking about possession of marijuana. I'm talking about serious drug-trafficking and overdose deaths."

Pierangeli, Assistant Prosecutor Cortney O'Malley-Septoski and Carolyn Groen, victim/witness services coordinator, are working to develop a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART).

"We want to be more responsive to adult victims, and have someone from our office involved right away," he said. "We have the Children's Advocacy Center for kids, and that has had a huge impact on the community. We need something for the adult victims."

Pierangeli said it will take time to fully implement some of the initiatives because, "Everything we do, I want to make sure it has legs to go on and results in lasting changes."

Pierangeli was elected in November to replace outgoing prosecutor Michael Sepic, who had announced his retirement. Sepic's final day as prosecutor was Thursday.

Pierangeli was sworn in as prosecutor by Berrien County Trial Court Judge Jennifer Smith, who was chief assistant prosecutor until becoming a judge.

"It was an honor to have her do the swearing in. She was a good mentor to me," Pierangeli said.

Pierangeli has named Jeff Taylor, previously chief trial attorney, as his chief assistant prosecutor, and has chosen O'Malley-Septoski as chief trial attorney.

"She is an amazing attorney and an amazing person," Pierangeli said. "I'm so happy to have her as my chief trial attorney. She's passionate about her work."

**Berrien County Chief Assistant Prosecutor Steve Pierangeli talks to students about internet safety during a 2019 presentation at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Benton Township.**

Don Campbell / HP file photo

As chief assistant, Taylor will have more administrative and personnel duties, but he and Pierangeli both will continue to handle cases.

"I'll still be in court, but much less. I'm going to miss being in court," Pierangeli said.

The new prosecutor said that when he was hired 16 years ago by Sepic, "I did not come here planning to be prosecutor. I just wanted to do my job."

*Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa*

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## DO YOU REMEMBER?

### 1996 – 25 years ago

For a short time Thursday morning, Buchanan was in the national spotlight, thanks to C-SPAN. The town was seen across the nation during a segment of "Washington Journal," which features cities named after presidents. The live segment switched back and forth between Buchanan, Mich., and Buchanan, N.Y. TV crews interviewed people from both places.

### 1986 – 35 years ago

A prenatal and postnatal fitness class will be offered by Berrien General Hospital in Berrien Center beginning Jan. 16. The six-week series is especially designed for pregnant and postpartum women. Held in the hospital's community room, "Moms in Motion" will be offered twice a week. The bodies of pregnant and postpartum women are in a unique state. The effects of exercise are altered during this special time, so ordinary exercise programs are not appropriate.

### 1971 – 50 years ago

"Congress Today" is the title of a filmstrip being distributed to participating area schools as part of this newspaper's visual education program. The film presents pictures on the history and makeup of Congress – its committee systems, the passage of legislation and its relationship to the president. A teacher's guide accompanies each filmstrip, so the instructor can explain and question the students. There's even a congressional vocabulary quiz to promote understanding of legislative terms and words that are in the news.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

**By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Today is Saturday, Jan. 2, the second day of 2021. There are 363 days left in the year.

**Highlight in history:**

On Jan. 2, 1974, President Richard Nixon signed legislation requiring states to limit highway speeds to 55 miles an hour as a way of conserving gasoline in the face of an OPEC oil embargo. (The 55 mph limit was effectively phased out in 1987; federal speed limits were abolished in 1995.)

**On this date:**

In 1959, the Soviet Union launched its space probe Luna 1, the first manmade object to fly past the moon, its apparent intended target.

In 1960, Sen. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts launched his successful bid for the presidency.

In 1967, Republican Ronald Reagan took the oath of office as the new governor of California in a ceremony that took place in Sacramento shortly just after midnight.

In 1971, 66 people were killed in a pileup of spectators leaving a soccer match at Ibrox Stadium in Glasgow, Scotland.

In 1981, police in Sheffield, England, arrested Peter Sutcliffe, who confessed to being the "Yorkshire Ripper," the serial killer of 13 women.

In 1983, the original Broadway production of the musical "Annie" closed after a run of 2,377 performances.

In 2007, the state funeral for former President Gerald R. Ford began with an elaborate service at Washington National Cathedral, then moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan.

## 5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

| Today | Tonight | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly Cloudy | Scattered Snow | Mostly Cloudy | Mostly Cloudy | Mostly Cloudy | Mostly Cloudy |
| 38° | 29° | 37° / 28° | 38° / 31° | 39° / 32° | 41° / 35° |

### Local Outlook

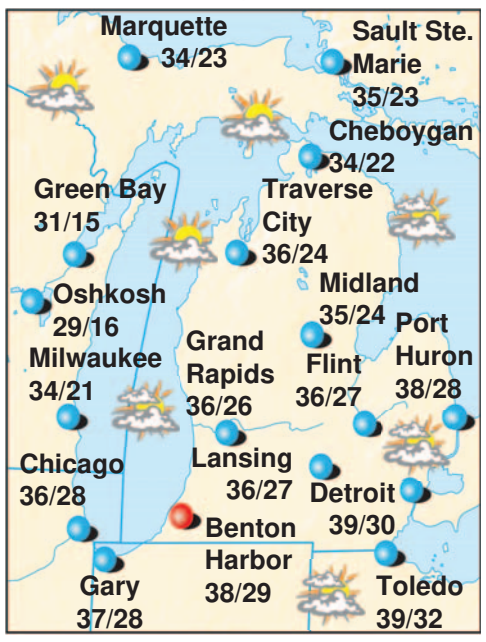
Today we will see mostly cloudy skies, high of 38°, humidity of 78%. North northeast wind 3 to 8 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with a 40% chance of scattered snow, overnight low of 29°. East southeast wind 5 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 27°.

### Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 8:14 a.m.
Sunset ..... 5:25 p.m.
Moonrise ..... 9:12 p.m.
Moonset ..... 10:57 a.m.

| Last | New | First | Full |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1/6 | 1/13 | 1/20 | 1/28 |

### Regional Map




### Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Thursday

| Temperature | |
|---|---|
| High | 32° |
| Low | 24° |
| Normal High | 32° |
| Normal Low | 17° |
| Record High | 57° in 2004 |
| Record Low | 2° in 2017 |
| **Precipitation** | |
| Thursday | 0.00" |
| Month to date | 1.91" |
| Normal for month | 2.18" |
| Year to date | 33.94" |
| Normal Year to date | 37.51" |

### Air Quality

Yesterday ..... 51
Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

**0-50** ..... Good
**51-100** ..... Moderate
**101-150** .... Sensitive
**151-200** .. Unhealthy

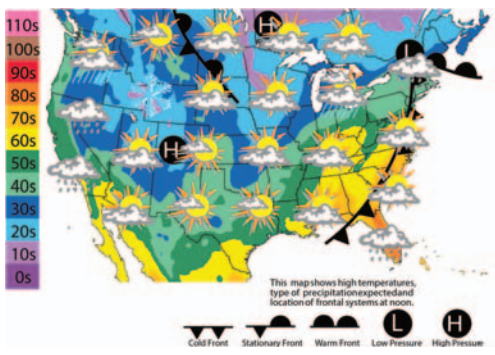
### Weather Trivia

*Does the sun always give off the same amount of energy?*

**Answer:** The amount varies, but only by a small margin.

### National Weather Map

Forecast map for Jan. 2, 2021




For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

### Lake Michigan

Today, N wind 5 to 10 kt. Partly sunny. Waves 2 to 3 ft. Water temperature 34 degrees. Tonight, E wind around 6 kt. A chance of rain and snow. Waves 1 ft or less.

### Michigan Forecast

**Upper Peninsula**

Today, skies will be partly cloudy with highs in the 30s. West northwest wind 3 to 6 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Sunday with highs in the 30s. South southwest wind 6 mph.

**Lower Peninsula**

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with highs in the 30s. North northeast wind 3 to 8 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Sunday with scattered snow, highs in the 30s. Southwest wind 3 to 10 mph.

# Loeffler, Perdue run hard-line pitch in swing state Georgia

**By BILL BARROW**
Associated Press

ATLANTA — The merchandise featured in Sen. Kelly Loeffler's online campaign store includes T-shirts and bumper stickers bearing Donald Trump's name and the message: "Still my president."

The Georgia Republican is running television ads ahead of Tuesday's Senate runoff elections that lambastes her opponent, the Rev. Raphael Warnock, as "dangerous" and "radical."

Loeffler's colleague, Sen. David Perdue, meanwhile, is warning Georgians that Democrats will enact a "socialist agenda" if his challenger, Jon Ossoff, wins on Tuesday.

In the final days of campaigns that will decide control of the U.S. Senate, the Republican incumbents are appealing to the most conservative part of the electorate. Their steady embrace of the hard-right, Trump wing of the GOP – even repeatedly refusing to acknowledge Trump's defeat – and their caricatures of the Democratic challengers may seem like a risky approach in a state that narrowly voted for Democrat Joe Biden for president in November after years of steady Democratic gains.

Yet the strategy reflects prevailing GOP wisdom in the Trump era: Republicans' clearest path to victory, even in swing states, is to drive up support among a GOP base motivated by allegiance to the president and fear of Democrats. Still, the approach comes at the expense of a once-broader Republican coalition that included more urban and suburban moderates and GOP-leaning independents who have rejected the Republican brand under Trump.

"The president resonates with a lot of people, and so do the buzzwords, so you hear 'Trump' and 'socialism' a lot," said Michael McNeely, a former vice chair of the Georgia Republican Party. "I wish we lived in a society where people talked about ideas, but that's just not where we are."

Trump may have complicated Perdue's and Loeffler's gamble even more with how he's handled his defeat to Biden.

The president has spread unfounded assertions of voter fraud and blasted Georgia Republican officials, including Gov. Brian Kemp, who have defended the elections process. When Trump allies, including Perdue and Loeffler, backed up the claims, some Republicans expressed concern it could discourage some Trump loyalists from voting in the runoff. Now, other Republicans are worried that GOP candidates have instead turned off the more moderate voters repelled by Trump.

"No Republican is really happy with the situation we find ourselves in," said Chip Lake, a longtime GOP consultant and top adviser to Loeffler's vanquished rival, Rep. Doug Collins. "But sometimes when you play poker, you have to play the hand you're dealt, and for us that starts with the president."

Trump will visit Georgia for a final rally with Loeffler on Monday evening, hours before polls open. It is unclear whether Perdue will attend. The senator said Thursday he was quarantining after being exposed to an aide who tested positive for coronavirus.

Democrats are fine with the GOP senators' decision to run as Trump Republicans and use exaggerated attacks. Opposition to the president has been a unifying force among their core supporters, and Democrats believe Republicans' overall tenor falls flat with voters in the middle.

"We talk about something like expanding Medicaid. We talk about expanding Pell Grants" for low-income college students, Ossoff said at a recent stop in Marietta, north of Atlanta. "David Perdue denounces those things as socialism?"

Ossoff noted Perdue's claims that a Democratic-run Senate would abolish private insurance; Ossoff and Warnock, in fact, back Biden's proposal to add a federal insurance plan to private insurance exchanges, not abolish private insurance. "I just want people to have the choice," Ossoff said.

November returns demonstrate the GOP snare. Biden beat Trump by about 12,000 votes out of 5 million cast in Georgia, making him the first Democratic presidential candidate to carry the state since 1992. Biden's record vote total for a Democrat in the state was fueled by racially and ethnically diversifying metro areas but also shifts in key Atlanta suburbs where white voters have historically leaned Republican.

## CHALLENGE

From page A1

Still, the president has pushed Republican senators to pursue his unfounded charges even though the Electoral College has already cemented Biden's victory and all that's left is Congress' formal recognition of the count before the new president is sworn in.

"We are letting people vote their conscience," Sen. John Thune, the second-ranking Republican, told reporters at the Capitol.

Thune's remarks as the GOP whip in charge of rounding up votes show that Republican leadership is not putting its muscle behind Trump's demands, but allowing senators to choose their course. He noted the gravity of questioning the election outcome.

"This is an issue that's incredibly consequential, incredibly rare historically and very precedent-setting," he said. "This is a big vote. They are thinking about it."

Pence will be carefully watched as he presides over what is typically a routine vote count in Congress but is now heading toward a prolonged showdown that could extend into Wednesday night, depending on how many challenges Hawley and others mount.

The vice president is being sued by a group of Republicans who want Pence to have the power to overturn the election results by doing away with an 1887 law that spells out how Congress handles the vote count.

Trump's own Justice Department may have complicated what is already a highly improbable effort to upend the ritualistic count Jan. 6. It asked a federal judge to dismiss the last-gasp lawsuit from Rep. Louie Gohmert, R-Texas, and a group of Republican electors from Arizona who are seeking to force Pence to step outside mere ceremony and shape the outcome of the vote.

In a court filing in Texas, the department said they have "have sued the wrong defendant" and Pence should not be the target of the legal action.

"A suit to establish that the Vice President has discretion over the count, filed against the Vice President, is a walking legal contradiction," the department argues.

A judge in Texas dismissed the Gohmert lawsuit Friday night. U.S. District Judge Jeremy Kernodle, a Trump appointee, wrote that the plaintiffs "allege an injury that is not fairly traceable" to Pence, "and is unlikely to be redressed by the requested relief."

To ward off a dramatic unraveling, McConnell convened a conference call with Republican senators Thursday specifically to address the coming joint session and logistics of tallying the vote, according to several Republicans granted anonymity to discuss the private call.

The Republican leader pointedly called on Hawley to answer questions about his challenge to Biden's victory, according to two of the Republicans.

But there was no response because Hawley was a no-show, the Republicans said.

His office did not respond to a request for comment.

Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., who has acknowledged Biden's victory and defended his state's elections systems as valid and accurate, spoke up on the call, objecting to those challenging Pennsylvania's results and making clear he disagrees with Hawley's plan to contest the result, his office said in a statement.

McConnell had previously warned GOP senators not to participate in raising objections, saying it would be a terrible vote for colleagues. In essence, lawmakers would be forced to choose between the will of the outgoing president and that of the voters.

Several Republicans have indicated they are under pressure from constituents back home to show they are fighting for Trump in his baseless campaign to stay in office.

Hawley became the first GOP senator this week to announce he will raise objections when Congress meets to affirm Biden's victory in the election, forcing House and Senate votes that are likely to delay – but in no way alter – the final certification of Biden's win.

City of New Buffalo Michigan

The City of New Buffalo is accepting resumes for a full-time position with benefits at the Department of Public Works. Must have Class B CDL with airbrakes specification or acquire within 60 days of hire. Maintenance of City owned building facilities and grounds, including but not limited to grass mowing, snow removal, maintenance and washing of vehicles, street paving and maintenance, drainage ditch, curb inlet and drainage pipe maintenance. Sidewalk and curb construction, minor concrete finishing, painting and weed spraying. Loads and unloads materials such as dirt, asphalt, salt, storm drain pipes, and sign materials. Brush removal/chipping and hauling, leaf collection and hauling.

Candidate must have the physical strength, agility, endurance and ability to work outdoors, occasionally under adverse weather conditions. The following physical demands will be necessary at varying frequencies while performing the job: standing for long periods of time, walking, use of hands, reaching, climbing or balancing; stooping, kneeling, crouching or crawling. May be required to lift and/or move heavy objects.

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701 Main Street • St. Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 983-7111 Ext. 8224
www.berriencounty.org/veterans
veterans@berriencounty.org

When it comes to Veterans Benefits, many veterans and dependents don't know what they don't know. Nationwide, less than 10% of those eligible apply. Let us help to educate and navigate you thru the maze of what is available from discharge to death. Here are some of the many benefits:

★ Disability Compensation benefits for prior conditions, diseases or injuries that occurred in service or many years later as a result of service (e.g. Agent Orange Exposure, Camp Lejeune Contaminated Water, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder – combat or personal trauma) to name a few.

★ PTSD Counselors from the South Bend Vet Center who come to Berrien County twice a week.

★ Non-Service Connected Veterans Pension and Survivors Pension benefits (House Bound as well as Aid and Attendance) for low income veterans over age 65 or prior to age 65 that are disabled and have at least one day of wartime service (additional means tested restrictions apply).

★ Free transportation at designated stops for veterans enrolled in the VA Health Benefits Program to the VA Medical Center in Battle Creek and the VA Health Care Center in Mishawaka.

★ Financial assistance thru the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund for wartime veterans or peacetime veterans who earned an expeditionary medal (additional means tested restrictions apply).

★ Free financial coaching from an Accredited Financial Counselor and Financial Fitness Coach Counselor as well as ongoing Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University Military Edition classes.

# hp SPORTS

**Stop and look at this snowy owl**

Outdoors, Page B6

# Rodgers, Packers eye top seed; Bears try to reach playoffs

**By ANDREW SELIGMAN**
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers are rolling with five straight wins and their second straight NFC North championship.

Something else they would like before the playoffs begin? The No. 1 seed and the bye that comes with it.

Rodgers and the Packers will try to clinch it when they close out the regular season against the playoff-hopeful Chicago Bears on Sunday.

"I think our guys have been locked in," coach Matt LaFleur said. "I've been really pleased with just the urgency, the effort, the communication, the energy around our building for the last month and a half."

The Packers (12-3), who pounded Tennessee last week, began their win streak by dominating the Bears at Lambeau Field. If they beat or tie Chicago (8-7), the No. 1 seed is theirs. A loss or tie by Seattle against San Francisco would also do it for Green Bay.

The Bears have scored 30 or more points in four straight games for the first time since 1965. And if they beat the Packers, they will make the playoffs for the second time in coach Matt Nagy's three seasons.

It's quite a turnaround after losing six in a row. But the Bears bounced back with three straight wins against struggling teams, beating Houston, Minnesota and Jacksonville.

The oldest rivalry in the NFL has been a rather one-sided affair in recent years, with Green Bay winning 18 of 21 against Chicago counting the postseason. The Bears can still reach the playoffs with a loss if Arizona falls on the road against the Los Angeles Rams. And if both games end in ties, the Bears would be playoff bound.

"When you lose six games like we did, you really rely on the players and coaches that you have inside this building here at Halas (Hall)," Nagy said. "And it's not easy. It's not easy for them, it's not easy for us. But what our guys did is they showed resolve and they kept fighting."

### Rodgers reigns

Rodgers has one last chance this season to make his case for winning a third MVP.

He has thrown 44 touchdown passes – one off his 2011 career high – with only five interceptions. He previously won the AP NFL MVP award in 2011 and 2014.

The Packers are 20-5 against the Bears in games Rodgers has started, including the playoffs. He threw four touchdown passes without an interception against Chicago last month.

"We both have something to play for," Rodgers said. "We're playing for the 1 seed, they're playing for their playoff lives, so

See **BEARS**, page B3

# Lions, Vikings both stumbling to disappointing finish

**By NOAH TRISTER**
Associated Press

DETROIT — This season will end like so many others for Matthew Stafford: His Detroit Lions have a losing record and won't be in the postseason.

What's different now is that there are real questions about Stafford's future with the Lions.

"I'm not thinking about it," Stafford said earlier this week. "All I'm thinking about is the Vikings and trying to get myself healthy. I know that's probably hard for people to believe, but that's the way this business is."

Detroit hosts Minnesota on Sunday in a matchup of two teams that are out of the NFC playoff picture. The Lions are heading into an important offseason after firing their coach and general manager. Stafford has been a mainstay in Detroit for 12 years, but given the uncertainty about the team's plan going forward, it's easy to imagine him being elsewhere next season.

And if this is Stafford's last game with the Lions, it could be anticlimactic. The coronavirus pandemic means there won't be a packed stadium of fans in Detroit – and Stafford's own status has been unclear because of thumb, rib and ankle injuries. The Lions (5-10) are coming off a 47-7 loss to Tampa Bay in which Stafford didn't play much.

So Detroit will finish with double-digit losses for a third straight season and the sixth time in Stafford's tenure. That's despite the efforts of a quarterback who is closing in on 45,000 yards passing for his career.

"You play this game to go out there and play in big-time moments, and we didn't do a good enough job this year as a team to make sure we have those opportunities this late in the season," Stafford said. "That's obviously disappointing and something that you want to rectify as a player, as a teammate, as a part of an organization."

The Vikings (6-9) are also left to play for pride after three straight defeats. They lost 52-33 last week to New Orleans, allowing six touchdown runs by Alvin Kamara.

"Any time you go out there and play – you hear from athletes all the time, it doesn't matter what you're playing, what you're competing at – go out there to win. Go out there and compete," Minnesota safety Harrison Smith said. "So that's the message. You don't want to put undisciplined play, uninspired play on film. Put who you see yourself as on film."

### Absent list

Pro Bowl running back Dalvin Cook won't play for the Vikings following the death of his father. Left tackle Riley Reiff was placed on the COVID-19 reserve list Wednesday, giving the Vikings the opportunity to give rookie Ezra Cleveland – who has started eight games at right guard – a look there if they want. Tight end Kyle Rudolph's 10th season is over early. He'll miss his fourth straight game with a foot injury.

Detroit receiver Kenny

See **LIONS**, page B3

Michael Ainsworth

Alabama wide receiver DeVonta Smith (6) catches a pass in the end zone for a touchdown as Notre Dame cornerback Nick McCloud, right, defends in the second half of the Rose Bowl on Friday.

# Not really that close

Michael Ainsworth / AP

Alabama running back Najee Harris (22) hurdles Notre Dame cornerback Nick McCloud (4) as he carries the ball for a long gain in the first half of the Rose Bowl on Friday.

## Fourth-seeded Notre Dame can't overcome poor first half in Rose Bowl

**By STEPHEN HAWKINS**
Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Alabama rolled into another College Football Playoff championship game.

Alabama 31, Notre Dame 14

DeVonta Smith caught three of fellow Heisman Trophy finalist Mac Jones' four touchdown passes, Najee Harris ran for 125 yards with a high-hurdling highlight and top-ranked Alabama beat No. 4 Notre Dame 31-14 in the relocated Rose Bowl on Friday to reach its fifth CFP title game.

While the location for this Rose Bowl was truly untraditional, the Crimson Tide (12-0, No. 1 CFP) playing for the national title is a common occurrence in seven seasons of the CFP.

"I don't think there's anything quite like the Rose Bowl, the tradition, the setting, the mountains. It's just a phenomenal experience ... wish our players had gotten that opportunity," coach Nick Saban said.

But Saban and the Tide will take yet another win in the home of the NFL's Dallas Cowboys, which the coach called one of college football's finest venues, and moving on in the playoff.

Notre Dame (10-2, No. 4 CFP), in football's final four for only the second time, has lost seven consecutive New Year's

See **ROSE**, page B3

# Irish better in Texas, but lose again in semifinal

**By SCHUYLER DIXON**
Associated Press

Michael Ainsworth / AP

Notre Dame quarterback Ian Book (12) is sacked by Alabama defensive lineman Byron Young (47) in the second half of the Rose Bowl.

ARLINGTON, Texas — Ian Book had Notre Dame moving with a chance to get within a touchdown of No. 1 Alabama when his interception shifted the momentum in the second half of their playoff semifinal.

A few plays later, the Irish quarterback was out of the game after 310-pound defensive tackle Christian Barmore fell on top of Book on a 14-yard sack.

The relocated Rose Bowl was a slightly more pleasant trip to Texas for the fourth-ranked Irish than their blowout loss to Clemson in the semifinals two years ago, but the outcome matched six previous trips to the playoffs or New Year's Six bowls since 2000.

Friday's 31-14 loss to the Crimson Tide at the home of the Dallas Cowboys put Notre Dame's average margin of defeat at 23 points in those seven losses, two years after a 30-3 loss to Clemson in the Cotton Bowl in the same stadium.

The game was moved to Texas because of COVID-19 restrictions in California.

Coach Brian Kelly bristled at the suggestion that the Irish flopped on a big stage again, and didn't like the suggestion that his team wasn't close again.

"I really don't want to continue to go down this path," Kelly said. "We're going to keep getting here. I'm sorry if you don't like it or if the national media doesn't like it. We're going to go back to work. We're going to keep recruiting and we're going to put ourselves back in this position again."

Notre Dame, a three-touchdown underdog, was at least in the game in the third quarter despite Alabama taking a quick 14-0 lead. The Irish were driving down 21-7 when Book thought he had tight end Michael Mayer open as he scrambled.

The underthrown pass was intercepted by Christian Harris, and John Metchie had a 40-yard catch and run on the next play to set up a touchdown.

On the next Irish possession, Book ended up in the medical tent after Barmore's sack, replaced by freshman Drew Pyne. By the time Book got back into the game after the winningest quarterback in the school's storied history missed the rest of that possession, the Irish trailed 31-7.

Book, a graduate student who also lost the semifinal to Clemson two years ago, finished 27 of 39 for 229 yards with another 55 yards rushing and a 1-yard touchdown. Kyren Williams also had a 1-yard score.

"It's our goal to win a national championship and we didn't do that," Book said. "A lot of us are done. It's up to these guys now. I trust them and I plan on them being back here and I'll be watching."

Notre Dame gave up TD drives of 79, 97 and 84 yards on Alabama's first three possessions, none of those marches lasting longer than 2:36.

But the defense was better the rest of the way, making the game feel more competitive than two years earlier when Clemson led 23-3 at halftime in a game that wasn't considered nearly as one-sided as this one coming in.

# NFL chooses 11 players for int'l. pathway program

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The NFL has chosen 11 athletes from nine countries to compete for a spot in the 2021 International Player Pathway Program.

Instituted in 2017, the program aims to provide elite international athletes an opportunity to compete at the NFL level, improve their skills, and possibly earn a spot on an a team roster.

"Since its creation in 2017, this program has been a part of the league's continuous efforts to strengthen the pipeline of international players in the NFL," said Damani Leech, the NFL's international chief operating officer.

Chosen for the program are LB Aaron Donkor (Germany), RB Taku Lee (Japan), DL Yoann Miangue (France), DE Leonel Misangumukini (Austria), DE Adedayo Odeleye (United Kingdom), LB Ayo Oyelola (United Kingdom), OL Max Pircher (Italy), TE Sammis Reyes (Chile), TE Bernhard Seikovits (Austria), DL Lone Toailoa (New Zealand) and OL Alfredo Gutierrez (Mexico). Soon they will begin training in the United States, seeking a practice squad position for next season.

One NFL division to be chosen at random will receive the international players.

At the conclusion of training camp, each player will be eligible for an international player practice squad exemption with his assigned team.

### Motor City social justice initiatives

The Detroit Lions are investing $490,000 through grants to organizations as part of the team's social justice initiative.

Lions players and ownership launched Detroit Lions Inspire Change after the 2018 season. This week, the team announced a list of grantees for 2021 who will receive funding.

Recipients include the Henry Ford Health System COVID-19 Emergency Needs Fund, as well as the Motor City Mitten Mission, which is dedicated to helping the homeless, the needy and the sick.

The Detroit Lions Academy, the Detroit Public Safety Foundation, the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, the Detroit Justice Center, the Detroit Public Schools Foundation and the Downtown Boxing Gym were listed as well.

The Lions also said they would support The Empowerment Plan, which aims to elevate families from the cycle of homelessness by hiring single parents from local homeless shelters, as well as HAVEN's Redefine program, a development course for high school and college-age men to help end gender-based violence. The team also listed the Pure Heart Foundation, which was designed to provide services to benefit the children of incarcerated parents.

"Through Inspire Change, we have been able to impact the local community in a personal way," defensive end Trey Flowers said. "We understand that as an organization and as human beings, we must do our due diligence to inspire and uplift each other while we can. Our initiative helps those in need and provides a reminder of what society needs us all to do – and that is to give back."

### Good health

Vikings quarterback Kirk Cousins will make it through a sixth straight season – he first became a full-time starter for Washington in 2015 and signed with Minnesota in 2018 – without missing a game to injury.

The only other NFL quarterbacks to do so during that span are Philip Rivers, Russell Wilson and Tom Brady.

Rivers and Wilson have started all 95 games since the beginning of 2015, one more than Cousins and Matt Ryan.

Cousins was held out of the final game in 2019 with Minnesota's spot in the playoffs clinched. Ryan's absence was in 2019, due to an ankle injury. Brady missed four games in 2016, but that was for a suspension from the league.

"There have been a lot of answered prayers," Cousins said, adding: "Yes, I have taken a few hits. That's part of the game. I think the key is my teammates and coaches have done a good job of preventing those hits that would actually keep you out."

### Broncos' 'We stand for'

As part of the Denver Broncos' Inspire Change program, the team had donated more than $250,000 to player-designated social justice programs in Colorado and the players' local communities.

Players selected five Colorado programs and organizations to receive $40,000. The recipients include organizations that focus on education and youth, bail and criminal justice reform, and community mental health resources.

Also, five organizations selected by participating players and coaches have received a total of $52,500 through the Broncos' "We Stand For" program, including The Justin Simmons Foundation.

Started this season, the "We Stand For" initiative provides players, coaches and staff the opportunity to use the club's digital platforms and financial resources to support nonprofits working on social justice issues.

Simmons said he hopes the NFL continues pushing for social justice even after the events of 2020, including widespread protests, begin to fade.

"I hope that happens for years and years to come because we know how powerful the shield is and the NFL can be," Simmons said, "and there could be a lot of good change coming with that support."

### Dak has Ryan's support in rehab

Sunday's matchup will be the first time the Cowboys and Giants have played since Dallas quarterback Dak Prescott sustained a season-ending ankle injury on a freakish play on Oct. 11 when he was tackled by New York defensive back Logan Ryan.

Ryan felt sick after the incident and had his people reach out to Prescott that night. He sent Prescott a couple of books to read.

While the two haven't had a chance to talk during the season, Ryan knows what Prescott is experiencing.

He fractured his left leg playing for Tennessee in a game against the Giants at the end of the 2018 season.

"I snapped my leg on a fluke play," Ryan said Wednesday. "It really made me a better player, it made me become maniacal with my workouts, maniacal with my training. It was my first time missing football games, so I came back with just a deeper level of appreciation for the game and a deeper hunger and a deeper work ethic. I really started waking up earlier.

"I reached out to Dak soon after that (incident). Haven't been in touch much since –- obviously we're both pretty busy human beings at this time of the year –- but I wish him the best of luck and I'm sure he's having a great recovery from what I've heard and what I've seen."

Carlos Osorio / AP

Detroit Pistons guard Killian Hayes (7) looks to pass the ball as Boston Celtics guard Payton Pritchard (11) defends during the first half of Friday's game.

# Grant's 24 points lead Pistons past Celtics

DETROIT (AP) — Jeremi Grant scored 24 points and Derrick Rose added 17 as the Detroit Pistons won their first game of the season, beating the Boston Celtics 96-93 on Friday night.

Rookie Saddiq Bey added 17 points for the Pistons, who had lost four straight to start the season.

Jayson Tatum had 28 points for the Celtics. Jaylen Brown scored 25, but missed a tying 3-pointer in the final seconds.

The Pistons led by as many as 21 points in the first half and had a 55-40 advantage going into the third quarter, but the Celtics' defense got them back into the game. Boston had nine points off turnovers in the quarter to cut the deficit to 79-73.

Brown scored the first seven points of the fourth to give Boston its first lead, and Tatum's 3-pointer made it 93-88 with 4:15 to play. The Celtics, though, missed their next seven shots and Rose's layup put the Pistons ahead 94-93 with 1:20 left.

Saddiq Bey's free throw made it 95-93 with 25.5 seconds left, and Marcus Smart missed a tying shot with 5.6 seconds remaining.

Mason Plumlee missed the first of two free throws, giving the Celtics a last chance to tie the game, but Brown missed from the right wing.

### Tip-ins

**Celtics:** Boston missed 11 of its first 13 shots from the floor to fall behind 23-5 with 3:46 left in the first quarter, but outscored the Pistons 35-32 for the rest of the first half. ... Robert Williams III left the game in the fourth quarter after banging legs with Rose.

**Pistons:** Grant had 18 points in the first half, including a highlight-reel dunk over Daniel Theis. ... Killian Hayes started at point guard despite a sore ankle. He had six assists and did not score in 23 minutes.

### Up next

The teams will face each other again on Sunday.

# Sports in 2020: Disruptions aplenty, only constant was loss

By JIM LITKE
Associated Press

2020 reminded us that the show mustn't always go on. Disrupted by the coronavirus, sports stopped cold three months in and then started up again in emptied-out stadiums, stumbling, skidding and finally staggering across the finish line — all the while shadowed by loss.

Celebrations were muted, crowd noise was piped-in and dozens of games were canceled at the last minute even as the sports industry hemorrhaged jobs. Facing increasingly long odds, some mega-events – the Olympics, March Madness, the Boston Marathon and Wimbledon – pushed the starting line into 2021. Those were hardly the only dislocations.

Kobe Bryant was killed in a helicopter crash in late January, and the toll of beloved figures we mourned kept mounting – Diego Maradona, Don Shula, John Thompson and Bob Gibson, among others – until Phil Niekro passed away two days after Christmas. But those moments of unity lasted only so long. Straining under the combined weight of a pandemic and a nationwide reckoning on race, the last few bricks in the wall between sports and politics crumbled and fans and athletes quickly chose sides – take Naomi Osaka, for one, who used her U.S. Open-winning run to speak out on racial injustice.

Time will tell what was won or lost by playing on. Toronto Raptors coach Nick Nurse experienced both, but wasn't sure which memories would prove lasting. Easier to settle was what he missed most: everything that goes on around the games themselves.

"The 'electricity' in the streets on game day, the tremendous buzz in the city," said Nurse, who won NBA coach of the year honors, but saw his team's chances to repeat as champions squashed by the Celtics in Game 6 of the Eastern Conference semifinals. Technically that was a "home" game, but it was played in the nearly-empty NBA "bubble."

"We certainly missed that (energy)," he added.

Stretched between public health concerns and a worsening economy, leagues and teams scrambled to innovate and return to play. With access to robust COVID-19 testing and deeper pockets than most businesses, some sports gathered players in isolated spots – like the NBA's use of a sports complex at Walt Disney World in Florida – while others attempted to restore some semblance of home-and-away normalcy.

It worked for nearly all of them, but just barely. The Denver Broncos ran out of healthy quarterbacks at one point in the NFL season and the San Francisco 49ers called Arizona home as the coronavirus surged in California late in the season. Preparations to rush back college football and basketball games were so inconsistent from one program to the next, the schedules might as well have been written in invisible ink.

"We're just plowing through this," Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski griped in early December.

"I know the NCAA is worried about the endgame," he added, referring to plans for the lucrative 2021 NCAA tournament. "They're not as worried about the game we're playing right now."

Germany's Bundesliga took advantage of their countrymen's successful effort early in the pandemic and became the first big leaguers on either side of the Atlantic back on the pitch. Even less surprising, its perennial champion, Bayern Munich, beat PSG in the Champions League final, claiming the first major team sports title of the COVID-19 era.

"It was a difficult situation, playing without fans, without atmosphere in the stadium," said Bayern scoring ace Robert Lewandowski.

"It wasn't just the specific nature of football. It was also in our private life. This was something new," he added. "We didn't want it, nobody did."

Bayern players celebrated afterward like a team that won a rec league championship, not one of soccer's grandest trophies. Whatever joy they felt – relief might be more accurate – was tempered knowing the 2020-21 season would kick off barely two weeks later.

Of course, not every champion or their fans celebrated that responsibly. After Liverpool ended a 30-year drought with an English Premier League title in June, some 2,000 fans gathered outside Anfield stadium and set off enough flares to turn the night sky red. Police made no attempt to disperse the crowd.

"It was mostly good-natured," explained constable Rob Carden. He heaped even more praise on the "overwhelming majority of fans that recognized now is not the time to gather together to celebrate and chose to mark the event safely."

Try telling that to Los Angeles Dodgers' slugger Justin Turner. Pulled during the deciding game of the World Series because of a positive COVID-19 result, Turner ran back out on the field for the after-party, hugging teammates and posing for photos without a mask on.

He subsequently apologized, but defended his "mindset" in that moment: "Winning the World Series was my lifelong dream and the culmination of everything I worked for in my career."

Now imagine just-as-hungry and even-younger athletes winning one of the more than 300 gold medals handed out, which is one reason why the Tokyo Olympic organizing committee took a pass on 2020. It marked the first time the Games, sports' biggest global event, had been postponed or canceled for something other than war.

LeBron James said as much moments after he and the Los Angeles Lakers wrapped their hands around the NBA championship trophy. James was one of the principals in a growing movement that saw athletes loudly and visibly pushing for social justice reforms like never before.

# Ramsey leads No. 15 Northwestern past Auburn in Citrus

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORLANDO, Fla. — Northwestern's defense sent coordinator Mike Hankwitz into retirement as a winner.

Peyton Ramsey threw three touchdown passes and ran for a score, and the 15th-ranked Wildcats clamped down defensively to beat Auburn 35-19 in the Citrus Bowl on Friday.

Ramsey, a graduate transfer, totaled 291 yards passing and 50 yards rushing for Northwestern (7-2), which won its fourth straight bowl game. Ramaud Chiaokhiao-Brown, John Raine and Riley Lees had touchdown catches for the Wildcats, who bounced back from an ugly loss to Ohio State on Dec. 19 in the Big Ten championship game.

It was the final game for the 73-year-old Hankwitz, who is retiring after a 51-year coaching career that included 400 victories at nine schools. He was the defensive coordinator for Colorado's 1990 national championship team and spent the last 13 seasons as Northwestern's coordinator.

"For Hank, you want to talk about the (legend), think about this: 580 career games coached, 400 career wins, 288 of those as a defensive coordinator, 11 conference championships and a national championship," Northwestern coach Pat Fitzgerald said. "There's a lot to be thankful for – our seniors, to Hank and our players down here."

Bo Nix threw for 292 yards for Auburn (6-5) but was often frustrated by Northwestern's defense, which came in allowing 15.5 points per game, ranked fifth in the nation. Auburn was led by interim coach Kevin Steele following the Dec. 13 firing of Gus Malzahn and was missing several key players.

"We're Auburn football and we're never going to make excuses for who's out there and who's not out there. It's next man up," Steele said. "It doesn't matter – COVID, injury or opt-outs, we don't (make excuses). We had some young guys who did some really good things that are going to help them for the future of the program."

Auburn got within 14-13 when Nix hit Elijah Canion for a 57-yard touchdown midway through the third quarter. But Ramsey responded with a 30-yard touchdown run late in the quarter.

Linebacker Paddy Fisher, the nation's active leader in tackles coming into the game, drilled Nix for no gain on fourth-and-1 on the second play of the fourth quarter. Cam Porter had seven carries on the ensuing drive, including a 1-yard plunge into the end zone that put Northwestern ahead 28-13. Porter rushed for 98 yards on 33 carries, and the Wildcats offense finished with 457 yards and 25 first downs.

### Peach bowl

#### No. 11 Georgia 24, No. 6 Cincinnati 21

ATLANTA – Jack Podlesny kicked a 53-yard field goal with three seconds remaining, and Georgia handed Cincinnati its only loss of the season with a dramatic victory in the Peach Bowl.

Georgia (8-2) trailed 21-10 in the fourth quarter, but clamped down on Desmond Ridder and Cincinnati and JT Daniels helped rally the Bulldogs with his arm. Daniels finished with 392 yards passing.

Podlesny's third field goal was his longest of the season and gave Georgia a 22-21 lead. Azeez Ojulari sacked Ridder for a safety on the final play. It was Ojulari's third sack. Georgia tied a school record with eight sacks.

Ridder completed 24 of 37 passes for 206 yards and two touchdowns. Jerome Ford added a career-long 79-yard touchdown run early in the second half but it wasn't enough for the Bearcats.

Cincinnati (9-1) was motivated to use the Peach Bowl to gain national respect. Coach Luke Fickell wanted the Bearcats to be included in this season's playoff and he said it was an opportunity to be judged evenly with Power 5 teams in the future.

## BEARS

From page B1

there's a lot at stake for both squads. We got after them a few weeks ago; they've been playing a lot better since then. We know what kind of game it's going to be."

### Swan song?

Quarterback Mitchell Trubisky and star receiver Allen Robinson could be playing their final game for Chicago, with their contracts expiring.

For Trubisky, it has been a turbulent run since the Bears drafted him with the No. 2 pick in 2017. The Bears made an offseason trade for Nick Foles and opted not to exercise their option for 2021 on their once-prized QB. Trubisky opened the season as the starter, only to get benched in Week 3. But he has performed better in the five games since he returned to the lineup, completing 68 percent of his passes for 1,243 yards, 10 touchdowns and four interceptions.

Robinson has a career-high 100 receptions for 1,213 yards. Only Brandon Marshall (118 in 2012) and Matt Forte (102 in 2014) have caught more passes in a season for Chicago.

### Chasing Sharpe

Green Bay's Davante Adams has a chance to break a couple of Sterling Sharpe's single-season franchise receiving records Sunday.

Adams has 17 touchdown catches, one off the team record Sharpe set in 1994. Adams also has 109 overall receptions, two off his own career high and three behind Sharpe's 1993 franchise-record total.

Adams is the third player in NFL history to have 100-plus receptions and 17-plus touchdown catches in the same season. Minnesota's Cris Carter had 122 catches and 17 touchdown receptions in 1999. Randy Moss had 111 receptions and 17 touchdown catches in 2003.

Adams has accomplished all this despite missing two games with a hamstring injury.

### Second-quarter surge

The Packers have outscored opponents 198-86 in the second quarter this season. They outscored the Bears 21-7 in the second period during the first regular-season meeting between these teams.

If the Packers get any points in the second period Sunday, they will become the highest-scoring, second-quarter team in NFL history. The New England Patriots have the NFL record for second-quarter points in a season with 199 in 2007, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

### Streaking to playoffs

The Bears could become the third team since the 1970 merger to reach the playoffs after losing six in a row.

The 1970 Cincinnati Bengals and 2014 Carolina Panthers also did it.

## LIONS

From page B1

Golladay is expected to miss another game with a hip injury. He's played only five games this season.

### Numbers game

Vikings wide receiver Justin Jefferson has some obvious goals to play for, needing 111 yards to break the NFL rookie record for yards receiving set by Anquan Boldin (1,377 in 2003) and just 47 yards to top the franchise rookie record held by Randy Moss (1,313 in 1998). Jefferson has already bested Moss in receptions.

"To actually reach my goals and reach beyond my goals, I mean, that's something special," said Jefferson, who set his aim before the season for 60 catches, 1,000 yards and six touchdowns. "I've just got to keep going and keep building on my game and get better and better each season."

Stafford needs 209 yards passing to reach 4,000 for the season. He hasn't achieved that since 2017. He is 184 yards shy of 45,000 for his career.

### Dismal defense

After ranking sixth, ninth, first, sixth, fifth and 11th in fewest points allowed over their first six seasons under coach Mike Zimmer, the Vikings have plummeted this year to 28th with an average of 29.3 points surrendered per game. They hit bottom in the loss at New Orleans last week, with 264 yards rushing allowed.

### Still upbeat

Lions interim coach Darrell Bevell was a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19, so last weekend he became the first head coach to miss a game because of the league's protocols during the pandemic.

He said this has still been a great experience.

"I've learned a lot," he said. "There's been a lot that's been thrown at me in a short period of time, but like I've told you many, many times, I love this game, I love being around these players and I love, really, everything that goes on with it."

### Eearlier meeting

Minnesota beat Detroit 34-20 on Nov. 8. Kirk Cousins threw for 220 yards and three touchdowns for the Vikings. Stafford left that game for concussion evaluation and backup Chase Daniel threw a touchdown and an interception.

# SCOREBOARD

## NFL

**AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

**East**

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| yx-Buffalo | 12 | 3 | 0 | .800 | 445 | 349 |
| Miami | 10 | 5 | 0 | .667 | 378 | 282 |
| New England | 6 | 9 | 0 | .400 | 298 | 339 |
| N.Y. Jets | 2 | 13 | 0 | .133 | 229 | 429 |

**South**

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Indianapolis | 10 | 5 | 0 | .667 | 423 | 348 |
| Tennessee | 10 | 5 | 0 | .667 | 450 | 401 |
| Houston | 4 | 11 | 0 | .267 | 346 | 423 |
| Jacksonville | 1 | 14 | 0 | .067 | 292 | 464 |

**North**

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| yx-Pittsburgh | 12 | 3 | 0 | .800 | 394 | 288 |
| Baltimore | 10 | 5 | 0 | .667 | 430 | 300 |
| Cleveland | 10 | 5 | 0 | .667 | 384 | 397 |
| Cincinnati | 4 | 10 | 1 | .300 | 308 | 386 |

**West**

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| zyx-Kansas City | 14 | 1 | 0 | .933 | 452 | 324 |
| Las Vegas | 7 | 8 | 0 | .467 | 402 | 447 |
| L.A. Chargers | 6 | 9 | 0 | .400 | 346 | 405 |
| Denver | 5 | 10 | 0 | .333 | 292 | 414 |

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**East**

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dallas | 6 | 9 | 0 | .400 | 376 | 450 |
| Washington | 6 | 9 | 0 | .400 | 315 | 315 |
| N.Y. Giants | 5 | 10 | 0 | .333 | 257 | 338 |
| Philadelphia | 4 | 10 | 1 | .300 | 320 | 398 |

**South**

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| yx-New Orleans | 11 | 4 | 0 | .733 | 449 | 330 |
| x-Tampa Bay | 10 | 5 | 0 | .667 | 448 | 328 |
| Carolina | 5 | 10 | 0 | .333 | 343 | 369 |
| Atlanta | 4 | 11 | 0 | .267 | 369 | 370 |

**North**

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| yx-Green Bay | 12 | 3 | 0 | .800 | 474 | 353 |
| Chicago | 8 | 7 | 0 | .533 | 356 | 335 |
| Minnesota | 6 | 9 | 0 | .400 | 393 | 440 |
| Detroit | 5 | 10 | 0 | .333 | 342 | 482 |

**West**

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| yx-Seattle | 11 | 4 | 0 | .733 | 433 | 348 |
| L.A. Rams | 9 | 6 | 0 | .600 | 354 | 289 |
| Arizona | 8 | 7 | 0 | .533 | 403 | 349 |
| San Francisco | 6 | 9 | 0 | .400 | 353 | 364 |

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z-clinched first round bye
-clinched home-field advantage

**Sunday's Games**

Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
Miami at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at New England, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
Arizona at L.A. Rams, 4:25 p.m.
Green Bay at Chicago, 4:25 p.m.
Jacksonville at Indianapolis, 4:25 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at Kansas City, 4:25 p.m.
Las Vegas at Denver, 4:25 p.m.
New Orleans at Carolina, 4:25 p.m.
Seattle at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
Tennessee at Houston, 4:25 p.m.
Washington at Philadelphia, 8:20 p.m.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

**Thursday, Dec. 31**
**ARMED FORCES BOWL**
**Fort Worth, Texas**
Mississippi St., 28, No. 22 Tulsa 26
**ARIZONA BOWL**
**Tucson, Ariz.**
No. 19 San Jose St. 13, Ball State. 34
**LIBERTY BOWL**
**Memphis, Tenn.**
West Virginia 24, Army 21
**TEXAS BOWL**
**Houston**
TCU vs. Arkansas, canceled

**Friday, Jan. 1**
**PEACH BOWL**
**Atlanta**
No. 11 Georgia 24, No. 6 Cincinnati 21
**CITRUS BOWL**
**Orlando, Fla.**
No. 15 Northwestern 35, Auburn 19
**COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF SEMIFINAL**
**ROSE BOWL**
**Arlington, Texas**
No. 1 Alabama 31, No. 4 Notre Dame 14
**SUGAR BOWL**
**New Orleans**
No. 2 Clemson vs. No. 3 Ohio St.

**Saturday, Jan 2**
**GATOR BOWL**
**Jacksonville, Fla.**
No. 24 NC State vs. Kentucky, Noon (ESPN)
**OUTBACK BOWL**
**Tampa, Fla.**
No. 7 Indiana vs. Mississippi, 12:30 p.m. (ABC)
**FIESTA BOWL**
**Glendale, Ariz.**
No. 12 Iowa State vs. No. 25 Oregon, 4 p.m. (ESPN)
**ORANGE BOWL**
**Miami Gardens, Fla.**
No. 5 Texas A&M vs. No. 14 North Carolina, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

**Monday, Jan. 11**
**COLLEGE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP**
**Miami Gardens, Fla.**
Semifinal Game 1 winner vs. Sugar Bowl winner, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

**ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE**

| | Conference W | L | Pct | All Games W | L | Pct |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Virginia Tech | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 8 | 1 | .889 |
| NC State | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 6 | 1 | .857 |
| Louisville | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 6 | 1 | .857 |
| Syracuse | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 6 | 1 | .857 |
| Virginia | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 5 | 2 | .714 |
| Duke | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 3 | 2 | .600 |
| Clemson | 1 | 1 | .500 | 7 | 1 | .875 |
| Florida St. | 1 | 1 | .500 | 5 | 2 | .714 |
| Pittsburgh | 1 | 1 | .500 | 5 | 2 | .714 |
| Georgia Tech | 1 | 1 | .500 | 5 | 3 | .625 |
| Wake Forest | 0 | 0 | .000 | 3 | 0 | 1.000 |
| Miami | 0 | 2 | .000 | 4 | 3 | .571 |
| North Carolina | 0 | 2 | .000 | 5 | 4 | .556 |
| Notre Dame | 0 | 2 | .000 | 3 | 5 | .375 |
| Boston College | 0 | 2 | .000 | 2 | 6 | .250 |

**Thursday's Games**
Wake Forest 70, Catawba 62
**Saturday's Games**
Louisville at Boston College, Noon
Clemson at Miami, 2 p.m.
Virginia Tech at Virginia, 2 p.m.
Notre Dame at North Carolina, 4 p.m.
Duke at Florida St., 8 p.m.
Notre Dame at Pittsburgh, ppd.
Syracuse at North Carolina, ppd.
**Sunday's Games**
Wake Forest at Georgia Tech, 6 p.m.

**BIG TEN CONFERENCE**

| | Conference W | L | Pct | All Games W | L | Pct |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Michigan | 3 | 0 | 1.000 | 8 | 0 | 1.000 |
| Rutgers | 3 | 1 | .750 | 7 | 1 | .875 |
| Wisconsin | 3 | 1 | .750 | 9 | 2 | .818 |
| Northwestern | 3 | 1 | .750 | 6 | 2 | .750 |
| Illinois | 3 | 1 | .750 | 7 | 3 | .700 |
| Iowa | 2 | 1 | .667 | 8 | 2 | .800 |
| Minnesota | 2 | 2 | .500 | 9 | 2 | .818 |
| Ohio St. | 2 | 2 | .500 | 8 | 2 | .800 |
| Purdue | 2 | 2 | .500 | 7 | 4 | .636 |
| Indiana | 1 | 2 | .333 | 6 | 4 | .600 |
| Maryland | 1 | 3 | .250 | 6 | 4 | .600 |
| Michigan St. | 0 | 3 | .000 | 6 | 3 | .667 |
| Penn St. | 0 | 3 | .000 | 3 | 4 | .429 |
| Nebraska | 0 | 3 | .000 | 4 | 6 | .400 |

**Thursday's Games**
Wisconsin 71, Minnesota 59
Michigan 84, Maryland 73
**Saturday's Games**
Iowa at Rutgers, 2 p.m.
Purdue at Illinois, 6 p.m.
Michigan St. at Nebraska, 8 p.m.
**Sunday's Games**
Wisconsin at Penn St., Noon
Ohio St. at Minnesota, 5:30 p.m.
Northwestern at Michigan, 7:30 p.m.

**HORIZON LEAGUE**

| | Conference W | L | Pct | All Games W | L | Pct |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wright St. | 4 | 0 | 1.000 | 6 | 1 | .857 |
| Cleveland St. | 4 | 0 | 1.000 | 4 | 3 | .571 |
| Milwaukee | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 3 | 1 | .750 |
| Ill.-Chicago | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 5 | 2 | .714 |
| Oakland | 2 | 2 | .500 | 2 | 9 | .182 |
| N. Kentucky | 1 | 1 | .500 | 3 | 4 | .429 |
| Robert Morris | 1 | 1 | .500 | 2 | 3 | .400 |
| Youngstown St. | 1 | 3 | .250 | 4 | 3 | .571 |
| Fort Wayne | 1 | 3 | .250 | 2 | 3 | .400 |
| IUPUI | 0 | 0 | .000 | 1 | 0 | 1.000 |
| Detroit | 0 | 4 | .000 | 1 | 7 | .125 |
| Green Bay | 0 | 4 | .000 | 0 | 8 | .000 |

**Friday's Games**
Green Bay at Youngstown St.
Fort Wayne at N. Kentucky
Milwaukee at Robert Morris
Cleveland St. at IUPUI
Wright St. at Oakland
**Saturday's Games**
Green Bay at Youngstown St., 4 p.m.
Cleveland St. at IUPUI, 5 p.m.
Wright St. at Oakland, 5 p.m.
Milwaukee at Robert Morris, 5 p.m.
Fort Wayne at N. Kentucky, 6 p.m.

**MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

| | Conference W | L | Pct | All Games W | L | Pct |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bowling Green | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 6 | 2 | .750 |
| Toledo | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 7 | 3 | .700 |
| Ball St. | 2 | 0 | 1.000 | 4 | 3 | .571 |
| Akron | 1 | 0 | 1.000 | 3 | 1 | .750 |
| Cent. Michigan | 1 | 1 | .500 | 5 | 4 | .556 |
| Buffalo | 1 | 1 | .500 | 3 | 3 | .500 |
| W. Michigan | 1 | 1 | .500 | 2 | 5 | .286 |
| Kent St. | 0 | 0 | .000 | 3 | 1 | .750 |
| Ohio | 0 | 2 | .000 | 4 | 4 | .500 |
| Miami (Ohio) | 0 | 1 | .000 | 3 | 3 | .500 |
| E. Michigan | 0 | 2 | .000 | 2 | 3 | .400 |
| N. Illinois | 0 | 2 | .000 | 1 | 6 | .143 |

**Friday's Games**
Kent St. at Akron
Cent. Michigan at Akron, ppd.
Buffalo at Akron, ppd.
**Saturday's Games**
Toledo at W. Michigan, 2 p.m.
Ohio at Ball St., 3 p.m.
Bowling Green at N. Illinois, 6 p.m.
Miami (Ohio) at Cent. Michigan, ppd.
Kent St. at E. Michigan, ppd.

## NBA

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia | 4 | 1 | .800 | — |
| Brooklyn | 3 | 3 | .500 | 1½ |
| Boston | 3 | 3 | .500 | 1½ |
| New York | 2 | 3 | .400 | 2 |
| Toronto | 1 | 3 | .250 | 2½ |

**Southeast Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Orlando | 4 | 1 | .800 | — |
| Atlanta | 4 | 1 | .800 | — |
| Charlotte | 2 | 3 | .400 | 2 |
| Miami | 2 | 3 | .400 | 2 |
| Washington | 0 | 5 | .000 | 4 |

**Central Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Indiana | 4 | 1 | .800 | — |
| Cleveland | 3 | 2 | .600 | 1 |
| Chicago | 2 | 3 | .400 | 2 |
| Milwaukee | 2 | 3 | .400 | 2 |
| Detroit | 1 | 4 | .200 | 3 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Southwest Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Orleans | 3 | 2 | .600 | — |
| San Antonio | 2 | 2 | .500 | ½ |
| Dallas | 2 | 3 | .400 | 1 |
| Memphis | 2 | 3 | .400 | 1 |
| Houston | 1 | 2 | .333 | 1 |

**Northwest Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Minnesota | 2 | 2 | .500 | — |
| Utah | 2 | 2 | .500 | — |
| Portland | 2 | 2 | .500 | — |
| Denver | 1 | 3 | .250 | 1 |
| Oklahoma City | 1 | 3 | .250 | 1 |

**Pacific Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| L.A. Clippers | 4 | 1 | .800 | — |
| Phoenix | 4 | 1 | .800 | — |
| Sacramento | 3 | 2 | .600 | 1 |
| L.A. Lakers | 3 | 2 | .600 | 1 |
| Golden State | 2 | 2 | .500 | 1½ |

**Thursday's Games**
Indiana 119, Cleveland 99
Chicago 133, Washington 130
Philadelphia 116, Orlando 92
Houston 122, Sacramento 119
Toronto 100, New York 83
New Orleans 113, Oklahoma City 80
Phoenix 106, Utah 95
**Friday's Games**
Detroit 96, Boston 93
Memphis 108, Charlotte 93
Dallas 93, Miami 83
Atlanta 114, Brooklyn 96
Chicago at Milwaukee
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio
Washington at Minnesota
L.A. Clippers at Utah
Phoenix at Denver
Portland at Golden State
**Saturday's Games**
Sacramento at Houston, 5 p.m.
Charlotte at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
New York at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at New Orleans, 7:30 p.m.
**Sunday's Games**
Boston at Detroit, 3 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 6 p.m.
Washington at Brooklyn, 6 p.m.
Denver at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Utah at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Chicago, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.
**Monday's Games**
Charlotte at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Boston at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Houston, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Indiana at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Golden State, 10 p.m.

# NFL season often in doubt to end on time

**By BARRY WILNER**
AP Pro Football Writer

During the summer, with baseball just returning from its hiatus and the NHL and NBA scrambling to build "bubbles" to complete their interrupted seasons, many scoffed at the prospect of the NFL going through a four-month schedule on time.

Without cancellations or significant delays, too, likely even to the staging of the Super Bowl.

It's now 2021, and while the league isn't gloating about getting every regular-season game played in an NFL stadium, maybe it should. When the Eagles host Washington for the season finale, a sense of achievement and relief would be natural.

"It's been a tremendous accomplishment by our players and clubs, all personnel who have worked on this, and certainly our relationship with the players association," says Jeff Miller, the league's executive vice president of communications, public affairs and policy. "As we are thinking about Feb. 7 and getting to the Super Bowl, we all think about the many weeks it has taken to get here with an appreciation and gratitude."

Miller is understating the timeline. The NFL began formulating its plans and protocols to mitigate COVID-19 even before the 2020 business year began in March. Virtual reality became, well, virtual reality when such events as free agency, the draft, and all offseason activities went remote. A series of protocols, updated throughout the year, were designed to make team practice facilities and stadiums as safe as possible during the pandemic.

Preseason games were canceled – a four-game exhibition schedule would seem a thing of the past – and the schedule kicked off on time in September. Stadiums generally were empty of fans, creating an eerie environment in places such as Lambeau Field and the Linc that usually rock with noise and enthusiasm from the stands. Eventually, enough places allowed socially distanced fans in some buildings, and the NFL reached 1 million in attendance, something it approaches in one full week of regular-season games under normal circumstances.

The financial hit has been enormous, estimated at $2 billion in revenue losses. No, that doesn't mean franchises will beg poverty or disappear. Broadcast contracts make up for much of the negative impact. But the lack of ticket sales and spending at games and at the draft that was planned for last April in Las Vegas, plus a scaled-down Super Bowl week, affects everything from the profit line to the salary cap – which could be stagnant for 2021, forcing most every team to scramble.

Scrambling became a necessity for the clubs experiencing COVID-19 outbreaks (Baltimore, Tennessee, Denver, New England, Cleveland) and even some of their opponents as games were delayed and moved. For the first time in the modern era, the NFL played on every day of the week, with a juicy Thanksgiving night matchup between Baltimore and Pittsburgh winding up hitting the field the following Wednesday.

Denver used a converted wide receiver at quarterback when its entire QB group was barred for a game against New Orleans. Cleveland saw its top four wideouts sidelined for a game, too. Both the Broncos and Browns were beaten in those contests.

On the field, there was the rise of the Dolphins and Browns, both on the verge of qualifying for the postseason in their finales Sunday. Tampa Bay, with some 43-year-old guy named Tom Brady at quarterback, snapped a 12-season postseason drought.

## ROSE

From page B1

Six games since 2000.

Alabama led 14-0 after scoring the first two times it had the ball, including an 97-yard drive on which Harris leaped over 6-foot cornerback Nick McCloud just after crossing the line of scrimmage, landed on both feet and then sprinted for a 53-yard gain before getting run out of bounds.

"I actually try to teach him not to do it, and it didn't work," Saban said, laughing. "Anyway, for a big guy, it's pretty amazing that he can do that."

Jones, who completed 25 of 30 passes for 297 yards, threw a 12-yard TD pass to tight end Jahleel Billingsley on the next play.

That touchdown came between drives when Smith, who has 16 touchdown catches in his last seven games, turned short passes into scores of 26 and 34 yards. Smith finished with seven catches for 130 yards, added a nifty toe-tapping 7-yarder in the front corner of the end zone right on the pylon in the middle of the third quarter.

The Crimson Tide earned a spot in the Jan. 11 championship game in Miami, against No. 2 Clemson again or No. 3 Ohio State – the Tigers and Buckeyes played in the other CFP semifinal at the Sugar Bowl on Friday night. Alabama missed the CFP last year for the only time since the four-time playoff debuted at the end of the 2014 season.

CFP officials moved the Rose Bowl about 1,400 miles because of COVID-19 restrictions in California that would have kept family – or any fans – from attending the game at its normal home in Pasadena. There was a limited capacity crowd of 18,373 at AT&T Stadium, the home of the Dallas Cowboys, just a bit higher than attendance for the Cotton Bowl game played there two days earlier when Oklahoma beat Florida 55-20.

It was another thud of a finish for the Fighting Irish winning all 10 regular-season games, including a home victory over Clemson. But Notre Dame then lost 34-10 in the ACC title game to the Tigers.

"Today was about making the plays. They made them on the perimeter. Their skill players showed up today as they have all year," Irish coach Brian Kelly said. "We battled. I thought we did some of the things that we wanted to today but we simply didn't make enough plays."

Notre Dame lost 30-3 to Clemson in the CFP semifinal Cotton Bowl two years ago, that was also played at the home of the NFL's Dallas Cowboys. It was the first time the Irish had played Alabama since the Tide beat them 42-14 in the BCS national championship game eight seasons ago.

While the Alabama defense kept quarterback Ian Book scrambling, the Tide offense was rolling from the outset.

Book, the winningest starting QB ever for the Irish at 30-5, completed 27 of 39 passes for 229 yards and only his third interception this season.

Alabama's opening seven-play, 79-yard drive ended with Smith making his first catch in the left flat, then sprinting past and through defenders along the sideline for a 26-yard score. After the second-longest scoring drive in Rose Bowl history when Billingsley scored, Alabama drove 84 yards with Smith making a catch on a crossing route for the 34-yard score.

The closest Notre Dame got was 14-7 when Kyren Williams plunged in from a yard out on a fourth-down play early in the second quarter to cap a 15-play, 75-yard drive that took just over eight minutes.

### The takeaway

**Notre Dame**: The Fighting Irish have gone 32 seasons since winning their last national title with a 12-0 record under Lou Holtz in 1988.

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# Investing in 2020 was a scary, bumpy ride – here's what to expect in 2021

**Michelle Singletary**

No, you weren't overreacting if you spiraled into a heart-clutching panic when the U.S. stock market dived in March due to the first spread of the pandemic.

I got scared.

As I get closer to retiring, I watch my retirement account closer than ever before. Every swing down makes me freak out. Even when my account rises again, I get nervous wondering when there will be another plunge. But experts say there is often no cause for alarm.

"The stock market can do well even when the economy seems to be doing poorly," said Dan Egan, managing director of behavioral finance for Betterment.

As we close out 2020 – thank goodness – I asked some financial experts what lessons retirement investors should learn from a stock market that left people feeling jet-lagged from the market turbulence this year. Here's what they had to say.

*Christine Benz, director of personal finance for Morningstar:*

1. Put your retirement plan on autopilot.

For people who were investing through regular paycheck deductions in a company retirement plan, 2020's short-lived market crash was a nonevent. Data suggest that most 401(k) investors didn't flinch during this period, and that illustrates the virtue of putting in place a good, hands-off system. That way you don't have to worry about what to do during periods of volatility.

2. Play a good defense.

Research on brain functioning demonstrates that it's next to impossible to think long term if you're worried about your short-term well-being. And 2020's first quarter provided a vivid illustration of this, as many workers experienced job losses just as the market was tanking. To be a successful long-term investor, it's crucial to have enough liquid reserves set aside to carry you through unexpected events, whether a job loss or large medical expenses. That way you'll never be in the position of needing to raid your long-term investments when they're down. Holding three to six months' worth of liquid reserves is a good benchmark for most people, but those who should target an even bigger cushion include older employees, highly paid workers, contractors, or those who earn their living from the gig economy. These workers should aim to save a full year's salary of liquid reserves.

3. It's not too late to invest in stocks.

Investors who read headlines about the strong gains notched this year by the major markets might assume that they've missed the boat. The good news is that, at least until recently, only a fairly narrow segment of the market was increasing, while everything else didn't perform nearly as well. That suggests that investors with stocks in their portfolios should make sure they have well-balanced exposure, not just famous technology names like Apple, but also some value-oriented and non-U. S. stocks that still have plenty of room to grow.

*Carolyn McClanahan, a certified financial planner who founded the fee-only Life Planning Partners based in Jacksonville, Fla.:*

1. Everyone needs an emergency fund.

This keeps you from tapping into money that can be expensive to use, such as credit cards, retirement plans and the sale of assets.

2. You need a plan.

People need an investment policy on how much to allocate to certain riskier assets (stocks, real estate) and safer assets (bonds, CDs, and cash). By sticking to your allocation during times of market upheaval, you are less likely to sell out of the market in fear, which is what many people did during the market downturn in March. And they paid dearly for this mistake.

3. Invest in yourself.

What 2020 taught us is that even the most recession-proof jobs can be challenged in some circumstances. Some people think their jobs are recession proof. Health-care workers are one example. The critical-care workers kept their jobs, but those in medicine who were not deemed essential suffered cutbacks. By investing in yourself and keeping skills sharp, it makes it easier to pivot to alternative work to create an income.

*Ric Edelman, founder of Edelman Financial Engines:*

1. There's more to life than money.

Covid showed us how unpredictable and fragile our lives are. Let's use this lesson to be sure we're living the life we want to live, focusing on health, family, career, home and community.

2. Respect other perspectives.

Covid showed us that our lives are far more connected to each other than we realized. Let's live our lives in an inclusive, not exclusive, manner.

3. Ignore predictions.

With thousands of people offering predictions, it's likely that one of the predictions offered by one of them will come true – but it will be due to sheer luck, not brilliance, skill or talent. And the person who got it right last time will probably be wrong next time.

■■■

The stock market took us on a bumpy, scary ride in 2020. So, here's what these experts said you should expect in the new year:

"As much as we're all relieved to have a vaccine, and return to normalcy is on the horizon, I wouldn't rule out that 2021 will feature some market jolts along the way," Benz said.

Benz said this makes it especially important that investors match their portfolio to their spending horizon.

"Investors who are getting close to retirement should consider reducing risk in at least a portion of their portfolios," she said. "When they do eventually retire, they will be able to spend from their safe investments, cash and bonds, if stocks encounter a period of turbulence."

Still, keep in mind the very low yields on safe investments, Benz added. "Even retirees need the growth potential that comes along with stocks," she pointed out. "They can't afford to settle for very low returns that may even be negative once inflation is factored in."

I'll leave you with this from Eric Bronnenkant, head of tax for Betterment, for what to do in 2021.

"Be strong," he said. "Maintain focus on long-term goals, and ignore stock market noise."

## Ask the Fool

### Fixed Income vs. Equity

**Q** What's the difference between "fixed income" and "equity income" funds? — *O.M., Binghamton, New York*

**A** They're both mutual funds — or similarly structured exchange-traded funds (ETFs) — that aim to deliver income to shareholders.

A "fixed income" fund is typically invested in securities that pay out interest income on a reliable schedule — such as government or corporate bonds, certificates of deposit (CDs), and money market funds. The term "fixed income" is often used as a proxy for "bonds." The term "equity" refers to stocks, so an "equity income" fund is one that aims to generate income from the dividends of stocks in which it's invested.

Bonds have a reputation as safer than stocks, and they can be less volatile, but they vary widely in their riskiness. U.S. Treasury bonds, backed by the federal government, are quite safe, while corporate bonds carry more risk (and thus higher interest rates). Junk bonds sport the highest interest rates — because they're issued by risky companies. Over long periods, the stock market has usually outperformed bonds, so you may want to focus most or all of your long-term investment dollars on stocks.

***

**Q** What does "OTC" refer to? — *E.L., Forest Hills, Michigan*

**A** It's an acronym for "over the counter," and you'll see it next to thousands of securities that don't trade on a major exchange such as the New York Stock Exchange or Nasdaq. OTC stocks tend to be those of small companies that don't meet listing requirements for an exchange, though some major international stocks can also be found in the OTC market. Over-the-counter stocks are traded via broker-dealer networks, by computer or by phone. Learn more at **Fool.com/investing/stock-market/exchange/otc-markets**.

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# The Motley Fool

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## Fool's School

### The PSR: A Tool for Stock Valuation

The price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio is a popular tool that many investors use to get a rough idea of a stock's valuation — to see whether it looks overvalued, undervalued, or fairly valued. If a company has no earnings, though, a P/E ratio can't be calculated. Instead, the price-to-sales (P/S) ratio, sometimes called the PSR, can be used, as it focuses on sales (also known as revenue). Even with a profitable company, you might check the PSR.

Calculating a company's PSR is fairly easy: You simply take its market capitalization and divide it by the company's sales over the past 12 months. The "market cap" reflects a company's current market valuation — it's the current price per share multiplied by the total number of shares outstanding. You can find market caps listed for companies on major financial websites such as **Fool.com** and **Finance.Yahoo.com**. (**Finance.Yahoo.com** presents each company's P/S ratio, too, under its "Statistics" tab.)

Here's how you would crunch the PSR yourself: Let's say the Free-Range Onion Company (Ticker: BULBZ) has 20 million shares outstanding, at $25 a share, giving it a market capitalization of $500 million. If it had $1 billion in sales over the last year, its PSR would be $500 million divided by $1 billion, which equals 0.5. If its peers have PSRs of 1.0 or higher, Free-Range Onion's PSR of 0.5 suggests that it's more attractively valued and likely to have a substantial upside relative to its rivals — if it executes its strategies successfully.

It's not uncommon for companies to be unprofitable in some years, and you needn't avoid such enterprises entirely. By checking the PSR, you can see how much you'd be paying for a dollar of sales instead of a dollar of earnings. Compare the PSR with sales growth, too: A high PSR isn't necessarily bad if sales are growing rapidly.

Understand, though, that you should never rely on just the PSR — or any other single measure — when making an investment decision. Assess a wide variety of measures.

## My Smartest Investment

### Discounted Shares for the Win

My smartest investment was buying shares of 3M. I knew it was a great company, and because I worked there, I got to buy my shares at a discount. — *J.T., online*

**The Fool Responds:** It's always smart to invest in companies you understand well, as they're less likely to surprise you in a bad way. If you happen to work for a strong and growing company, and it offers an employee discount on shares, that's great, too. Like many employers, 3M offers eligible workers a stock purchase plan, letting them regularly and automatically buy shares via payroll deductions. The company's website explains: "The price for shares purchased under the (plan) is fixed at the beginning of each month and represents a 15% discount from the closing trading price of a share of 3M stock on the first trading day of the month. Eligible employees generally may choose to contribute 3% to 10% of their eligible compensation." That gives you roughly an immediate 15% gain on your investment!

A word of caution, though: It can be risky to have a lot of money riding on your employer's stock — because you already rely on your employer for your living expenses. If it were to fall on hard times, you might end up out of a job and find your portfolio shrunken as well. So spread your eggs across several baskets.

## The Motley Fool Take

### Chick Magnate

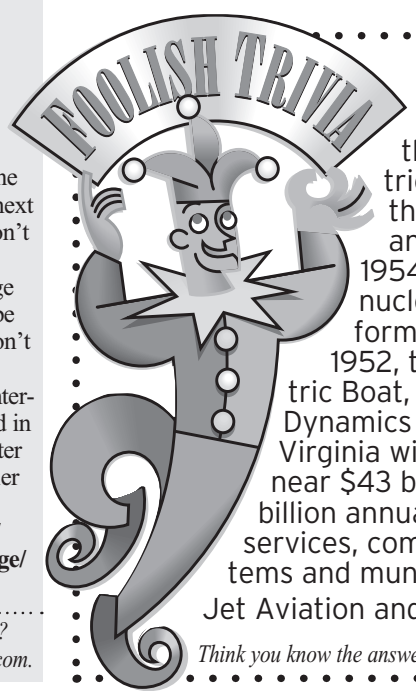
Tyson Foods (NYSE: TSN) has certainly felt the impact of COVID-19, which has hurt production. The company has been facing headwinds such as supply struggles, pricing pressures amid weak restaurant sales and rising demand for meat substitutes. While recent results suggest that Tyson is dealing effectively with the issue and its operations are running more smoothly, rising COVID-19 cases may prove to be another setback. The stock was recently down more than 30% from its 52-week high — presenting a buying opportunity.

Tyson is one of the biggest processors and sellers of beef, pork and chicken, with brands such as Jimmy Dean, Hillshire Farm, Ball Park, Wright, Aidells, ibp and State Fair. Even in a bad economy, demand for its products remains stable.

Despite ongoing issues, Tyson's results showed an improvement in its fiscal fourth quarter, with adjusted sales down by only 2% year over year as the virus continued to affect production — and operating profit jumping by 40% despite higher COVID-19-related expenses.

Showing confidence in its future, Tyson's board of directors recently raised its quarterly dividend by 6%, and the stock yielded over 2.7%.

No one wants to see widespread shutdowns, but that's a possibility with cases rising. Regardless, long-term Tyson investors can collect dividends while waiting for better times — and a rising stock price.




### Name That Company

I trace my roots back to the 1899 creation of the Electric Boat Company, which built the first practical submarine and sold it to the U.S. Navy. In 1954 it delivered the world's first nuclear-powered submarine. I was formed with my current name in 1952, through the merger of Electric Boat, Canadair and the Electro Dynamics Company. Today, based in Virginia with a market value recently near $43 billion, I rake in more than $38 billion annually. My offerings include IT services, combat vehicles, weapons systems and munitions. My businesses include Jet Aviation and Gulfstream. Who am I?

*Think you know the answer? We'll announce it in next week's edition.*

**LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER**

I trace my roots back to the 1929 founding of a mothproofing company by a former minor league baseball player. I grew into the ServiceMaster company, offering many services to homes and businesses, and added a big pest-control brand in 1986. In 2020, though, I sold off my ServiceMaster Brands, including AmeriSpec (home inspections), Furniture Medic (cabinet and furniture repair), Merry Maids (residential cleaning), ServiceMaster Clean and ServiceMaster Restore. I kept my pest-control business, though, and took its name as my own. Based in Memphis, Tennessee, I employ more than 10,000 people and serve 2.8 million customers. Who am I? (Answer: Terminix Global Holdings)

**Want to Invest?** Email us at foolnews@fool.com, and we'll send you some tips to start investing. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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# To raise financially savvy kids, give money lessons a reboot

**By SARA RATHNER OF NERDWALLET**

Many elder millennials may have learned to manage money much like our parents did: waiting for statements to arrive in the mail, balancing checkbooks and paying in cash. But if you're planning to impart the same lessons to your own children, ask yourself a few questions first.

Is this still how you deal with your finances? How often do you carry cash anymore? Do you even know where your checkbook is? If the respective answers are "no," "rarely" and "maybe in that box I never unpacked since moving six months ago," then the money lessons of the '90s aren't going to cut it for the next generation.

The way we handle money had already been changing dramatically, but the pandemic accelerated those changes. One example: A September 2020 American Express study found that since the COVID-19 outbreak began, 70 percent of merchants had customers request contactless payment options, and 73 percent of merchants prefer customers to pay with a card or app instead of cash.

So trade in those old-school money lectures for a primer on plastic and digital payments. By the time your kids become financially independent, they may thank you for it.

### Begin credit lessons at a young age

Because cash is tactile, it provides a natural way to introduce younger kids to money. But according to Gregg Murset – founder and CEO of the BusyKid app, which teaches kids about money management – you don't need to stick to coin counting for long. "I think kids are very smart these days, and they can learn that a quarter equals 0.25 in like five minutes," he says.

Since cash is out and cards are in, there's little reason to avoid introducing credit and debit lessons as soon as possible. Swap checkbook lessons for monitoring bank and credit accounts online. Show your kids what a credit card statement looks like. Talk about building credit history by showing them your credit report.

### Help kids track earning, spending and debt

Rosanna Agado, who recently moved from the Seattle area to Glasgow, Scotland, maintains a spreadsheet for her three kids. Rather than give them their weekly allowance in the form of cash, Agado and her husband act like a bank account and lender combined.

When one of their children decides to buy something, the parents pay and deduct the total from that kid's savings. The kids are allowed to go into debt and aren't charged interest, but they must skip however many weeks of allowance are needed until the debt is repaid.

Their eldest son, who is 14, now has a bank account with a debit card, and while Agado doesn't monitor his purchases, she does check the balance daily. "Having that freedom of having the card to spend on his own, it's like credit card light," she says. "He knows there's a limit on what he can spend."

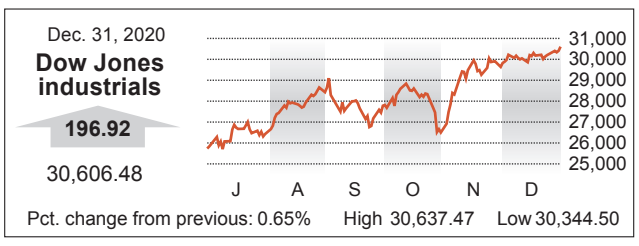
If something seems unusual, Agado discusses the purchase with her son to verify that it's accurate – not to judge his decision, but to teach him the importance of monitoring his account for suspicious activity.

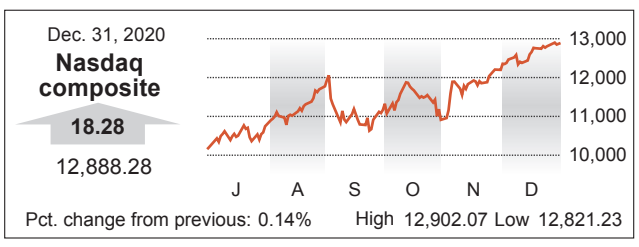
### Open up about your own credit habits – and mistakes

Credit cards can be a much-feared financial product because of the risk of getting into high-interest debt, but they can be a useful tool, too. Sharing your credit triumphs and errors with your kids can help them make confident decisions as adults.

Agado and her husband don't want credit to be a mystery to their kids. They discuss topics like credit card rewards, which card to use for which purchase and what happens if you take on debt or miss a credit card payment. "One of the main driving forces was the fact that my husband and I both destroyed our credit when we were younger," she says.

## MARKETS




Amer Elec Power AEP
$83.27 **+1.76 +2.2%**
▼ **4-wk.** -1.7% ▼ **YTD** -11.9%

Whirlpool WHR
$180.49 **-3.90 -2.1%**
▼ **4-wk.** -3.4% ▲ **YTD** +22.3%

### LocalStocks

| NAME | TICKER | 52-WK RANGE LO | HI | ◇CLOSE | CHG | %CHG | WK | MO | QTR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AT&T Inc | T | 26.08 | 39.55 | 28.76 | +.27 | +0.9 | ▲ | ▼ | ▲ |
| AEP | AEP | 65.14 | 104.97 | 83.27 | +1.76 | +2.2 | ▲ | ▼ | ▲ |
| Apple Inc s | AAPL | 53.15 | 138.79 | 132.69 | -1.03 | -0.8 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| AutoZone | AZO | 684.91 | 1267.93 | 1185.44 | +9.57 | +0.8 | ▼ | ▲ | ▲ |
| BP PLC | BP | 14.74 | 40.08 | 20.52 | -.51 | -2.4 | ▼ | ▼ | ▲ |
| CMS Eng | CMS | 46.03 | 69.12 | 61.01 | +1.10 | +1.8 | ▲ | ▲ | ▼ |
| CocaCola | KO | 36.27 | 60.07 | 54.84 | +.40 | +0.7 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| Comcast | CMCSA | 31.71 | 52.49 | 52.40 | +1.19 | +2.3 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| Deere | DE | 106.14 | 273.56 | 269.05 | +2.90 | +1.1 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| Disney | DIS | 79.07 | 183.40 | 181.18 | +.01 | ... | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| DollarTree | DLTR | 60.20 | 114.32 | 108.04 | +.24 | +0.2 | ▼ | ▼ | ▲ |
| ExxonMbl | XOM | 30.11 | 71.37 | 41.22 | -.38 | -0.9 | ▼ | ▲ | ▲ |
| FifthThird | FITB | 11.10 | 31.02 | 27.57 | +.29 | +1.1 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| 1stSource | SRCE | 26.07 | 52.32 | 40.30 | +.36 | +0.9 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| FordM | F | 3.96 | 9.50 | 8.79 | -.07 | -0.8 | ▼ | ▼ | ▲ |
| GenElec | GE | 5.48 | 13.26 | 10.80 | +.09 | +0.8 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| HomeDp | HD | 140.63 | 292.95 | 265.62 | +.36 | +0.1 | ▼ | ▼ | ▼ |
| HorizBcp | HBNC | 7.42 | 19.15 | 15.86 | +.38 | +2.5 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| HuntBncsh | HBAN | 6.82 | 15.20 | 12.63 | +.07 | +0.6 | ▲ | ▼ | ▲ |
| IDEX | IEX | 104.56 | 199.50 | 199.20 | +2.57 | +1.3 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| IBM | IBM | 90.56 | 158.75 | 125.88 | +1.54 | +1.2 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| JPMorgCh | JPM | 76.91 | 141.10 | 127.07 | +1.71 | +1.4 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| JohnJn | JNJ | 109.16 | 157.00 | 157.38 | +1.33 | +0.9 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| Lowes | LOW | 60.00 | 180.67 | 160.51 | -.05 | ... | ▼ | ▲ | ▼ |
| McDnlds | MCD | 124.23 | 231.91 | 214.58 | +3.02 | +1.4 | ▲ | ▲ | ▼ |
| Microsoft | MSFT | 132.52 | 232.86 | 222.42 | +.74 | +0.3 | ▼ | ▲ | ▲ |
| MillerHer | MLHR | 14.39 | 42.26 | 33.80 | +.27 | +0.8 | ▼ | ▼ | ▲ |
| Perrigo | PRGO | 40.01 | 63.86 | 44.72 | +.24 | +0.5 | ▲ | ▼ | ▼ |
| Pfizer | PFE | 27.88 | 43.08 | 36.81 | +.07 | +0.2 | ▼ | ▼ | ▲ |
| ProctGam | PG | 94.34 | 146.92 | 139.14 | +1.37 | +1.0 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| RepubSvc | RSG | 65.37 | 103.79 | 96.30 | +1.02 | +1.1 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| Steelcse | SCS | 7.02 | 20.74 | 13.55 | +.12 | +0.9 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| Stryker | SYK | 124.54 | 242.82 | 245.04 | +2.98 | +1.2 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| TCF Finl | TCF | 16.96 | 47.12 | 37.02 | +.14 | +0.4 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| Target | TGT | 90.17 | 181.17 | 176.53 | +2.65 | +1.5 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |
| TractSupp | TSCO | 63.89 | 157.07 | 140.58 | -2.18 | -1.5 | ▼ | ▲ | ▼ |
| UPS B | UPS | 82.00 | 178.01 | 168.40 | +2.17 | +1.3 | ▼ | ▲ | ▲ |
| VerizonCm | VZ | 48.84 | 61.95 | 58.75 | +.61 | +1.0 | ▼ | ▼ | ▼ |
| WEC Engy | WEC | 68.01 | 109.53 | 92.03 | +1.48 | +1.6 | ▲ | ▼ | ▼ |
| WalMart | WMT | 102.00 | 153.66 | 144.15 | -.03 | ... | ▲ | ▼ | ▲ |
| WalgBoots | WBA | 33.36 | 59.78 | 39.88 | +.54 | +1.4 | ▲ | ▼ | ▲ |
| Wendys Co | WEN | 6.82 | 24.91 | 21.92 | -.04 | -0.2 | ▼ | ▲ | ▼ |
| Whrlpl | WHR | 64.00 | 207.30 | 180.49 | -3.90 | -2.1 | ▼ | ▼ | ▼ |
| Worthgtn | WOR | 19.28 | 56.43 | 51.34 | -.35 | -0.7 | ▲ | ▼ | ▲ |
| XPO Logis | XPO | 38.47 | 123.59 | 119.20 | +.63 | +0.5 | ▲ | ▲ | ▲ |

## PRODUCE PRICES

*The following fruit prices were recorded on the Chicago Terminal Market on Wednesday. Prices are not net to the growers as freight and selling fees have not been deducted. These prices were provided by the USDA Market News Branch office in Chicago.*

**APPLES:** Cartons tray pack of Washington Extra Fancy 72s Red Delicious of fine appearance sold from mostly $29-30, Golden Delicious fine appearance fruit sold from mostly $39-40, Fuji brought mostly $32-33, Pink Lady sold from $40, Gala sold steady from $35-36 with fine appearance offerings from $39-42, and 72 size Honeycrisp sold for $35-36 with fine appearance $54. Cartons of 12 3-pound film bags of Washington WA Extra Fancy 2 1/2-inch minimum Red Delicious sold for $28, while Golden Delicious sold for $26-27, Fuji sold for $22 and Gala brought $30, while bushel cartons of 3-inch up Michigan Gala, Golden Delicious and Jonagold sold for $20.

**ASPARAGUS:** 11-pound cartons/crates bunched from Peru standard size sold higher $34.50, while white large offerings also sold higher for $32.

**BEANS:** Bushel cartons/crates of round green type machine-picked offerings from Florida sold higher from $34.

**BERRIES:** Flats of 12 1-pint cups with lids of medium-large size blueberries from Peru sold slightly higher from $22-24.50, with fine appearance offerings from Peru sold for $30-32.50. No organic offerings. Strawberries in flats of 12 1-pound containers medium-large size from Mexico sold for $28-28.50. No organic offerings.

**BROCCOLI:** Cartons of 14 bunches from California sold higher from $23, with organic offerings $22.

**CABBAGE:** 50-pound cartons of round green medium from Georgia sold higher from $20-22, with offerings from Texas $24.50 and red offerings $30.50.

**CAULIFLOWER:** Cartons of 12 film wrapped heads from Arizona sold lower for $30.50-32. No organic offerings.

**CORN:** Wirebound crates of four dozen Florida bi-color sold for $45.50-46, with yellow offerings $45.50.

**CRANBERRIES:** Cartons of 24 12-ounce packages of offerings from Wisconsin sold lower from mostly $29-30.

**CUCUMBERS:** 1-1/9-bushel cartons from Mexico of medium size sold for $24-26, large sold lower for $22.50-24, while carton 24s sold slightly lower for mostly $10-12. Pickles of 200-300 size from Texas sold lower for $35.

**EGGPLANT:** 1 1/9-bushel cartons of medium size from Florida sold lower for $14, with 24 count Mexico offerings sold higher at $17.

**LETTUCE:** Cartons film wrapped 24 heads of iceberg lettuce from Arizona sold lower for mostly $16-19.50, with organic offerings $40.

**ORANGES:** Cartons of 10 4-pound film bags of California 72-size Valencia juice oranges sold steady for mostly $28-29.

**PEPPERS:** 1-1/9-bushel cartons of Mexico green extra-large sold for $22.50-24, with large $18-19. Medium-large size cubanelle peppers from Florida sold for $32, with Mexico offerings of medium-large hungarian wax peppers sold for $18, extra-large serranos sold for mostly $26-29, long hots brought $20-22 and medium poblanos from Mexico brought $16-20 while extra-large size jalapenos sold for mostly $17-20.

**SQUASH:** 4/7-bushel cartons of small-medium zucchini from Mexico sold lower for $11-12, with medium lower for mostly $9-10, while yellow straightneck small-medium sold slightly higher for $16-16.50 with mediums $16. 40-pound cartons of large size butternut from Mexico sold for $19-20, Mexico offerings of acorn from $19-20 and spaghetti $20.

**TOMATOES:** 25-pound cartons loose vine-ripe offerings from Mexico of 5x6 size sold higher for $34-38, and mature green offerings from Florida sold for $34-36, while cartons 2-layer offerings of vine ripes from Mexico of 4x5 size sold for higher $37. Cartons of 12 1-pint baskets of cherry type light red-red medium size from Mexico sold slightly lower for mostly $17-19, while grape type sold from $24. Plum tomatoes packed in 25-pound cartons loose of extra-large size from Mexico sold slightly lower from mostly $28-29.

## WAYLAND STOCK

As of Tuesday, Dec. 29 Prices are per pound.
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Lewis Joly / AP

A lorry arrives to board the first ferry heading to Britain after Brexit on Friday in Calais, northern France. Britain left the European bloc's vast single market for people, goods and services at 11 p.m. London time, midnight in Brussels, completing the biggest single economic change the country has experienced since World War II.

# Quiet New Year gives breathing room after UK-EU Brexit split

**By JILL LAWLESS**
Associated Press

Matt Dunham / AP

A British Union flag flies atop the Houses of Parliament in London, on the morning after the U.K. fully left the European Union on Friday.

LONDON — A steady trickle of trucks rolled off ferries and trains on both sides of the English Channel on Friday, a quiet New Year's Day after a seismic overnight shift in relations between the European Union and Britain.

The busy goods route between southeast England and northwest France is on the front line of changes now that the U.K. has fully left the economic embrace of the 27-nation bloc, the final stage of Brexit.

"For the majority of trucks, they won't even notice the difference," said John Keefe, spokesman for Eurotunnel, which carries vehicles under the Channel. "There was always the risk that if this happened at a busy time then we could run into some difficulties, but it's happening overnight on a bank holiday and a long weekend."

Britain left the European bloc's vast single market for people, goods and services at 11 p.m. London time on New Year's Eve, in the biggest single economic change the country has experienced since World War II. A new U.K.-EU trade deal will bring restrictions and red tape, but for British Brexit supporters, it means reclaiming national independence from the EU and its web of rules.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson called it "an amazing moment for this country."

"We have our freedom in our hands, and it is up to us to make the most of it," he said in a New Year's video message.

The historic moment passed quietly, with U.K. lockdown measures against the coronavirus curtailing mass gatherings to celebrate or mourn. Brexit, which had dominated public debate in Britain for years, was even pushed off some newspaper front pages by news of the huge vaccination effort against COVID-19, which is surging across the country.

In the subdued streets of London – which voted strongly to remain in the EU in Britain's 2016 referendum – there was little enthusiasm for Brexit.

"I think it is a disaster, among many disasters this year," said Matt Steel, a doctor. "It is a crappy deal. I don't really see any positives in it, to be honest."

But in seaside Folkestone, at the English end of the Channel Tunnel, retired bank manager David Binks said he was relieved that the tortuous Brexit saga was – just possibly – over.

"It's been going on for so long now that the time is now, I think, that we move on and go from there," he said.

The break comes 11 months after a political Brexit that left the two sides in a "transition period" in which EU rights and rules continued to apply to Britain.

The trade agreement sealed on Christmas Eve after months of tense negotiations ensures that the two sides can continue to buy and sell goods without tariffs or quotas. But companies face sheaves of new costs and paperwork, including customs declarations and border checks.

The English Channel port of Dover and the Eurotunnel braced for delays as the new measures were introduced.

# Biden's pick to lead Treasury made over $7M in speaking fees

**By WILL WEISSERT**
Associated Press

REHOBOTH BEACH, Del. — President-elect Joe Biden's choice to be treasury secretary, Janet Yellen, collected more than $7 million in speaking fees over the past two years from major financial firms and tech giants including Citigroup, Goldman Sachs and Google, according to disclosure forms filed as part of her nomination.

Yellen's was among three financial disclosures turned in by Biden transition officials that were made public on Thursday by the Office of Government Ethics. In a separate filing, Yellen listed firms and banks where she had received speaking fees and said she intended to "seek written authorization" from ethics officials to "participate personally and substantially" in matters involving them.

Yellen was the Federal Reserve chair from 2014 to 2018. Her term was not renewed by President Donald Trump. She took in the speaking fees in 2019 and 2020.

Her selection by Biden to lead the Treasury Department has been cheered by progressive Democrats, who support Yellen's work as a labor economist who has long prioritized combating economic inequality. Since her nomination was announced, Yellen has pledged to work to fight systemic racism and climate change.

But receiving steep payments from Wall Street bankers and other powerful corporations could become an issue as her nomination works its way through a closely divided Senate. Hillary Clinton faced criticism from the left wing of the Democratic Party while running for president in 2016 for having received lucrative speaking fees at Wall Street firms.

# How a business structure affects income tax treatment

The business structure you choose for your startup will affect your company from a legal standpoint, and it will have an impact on your taxes, as well.

Before you decide on the structure for your small business, you should do some research and talk to tax and legalprofessionals for guidance. The better you understand your options, the more likely you'll be to operate under the structure that will benefit your business the most.

The following is an overview of business structures:

### Sole proprietorship

By default, businesses are considered sole proprietorships (partnerships if more than one owner) if their owners don't register them formally as independent entities. Many at home businesses start this way because sole proprietorships require the least amount of registration paperwork and ongoing compliance efforts. From an income tax perspective, a sole proprietorship is also considered one and the same as its owner. Your business profits and losses flow through to your personal income tax return.

Note that with a sole proprietorship, your personal assets are not separated from those of your business. This poses some risks.

Your home, bank accounts, retirement savings, and other personal belongings might be in jeopardy if someone were to sue your company. When you form a limited liability company (LLC) or incorporate your business, however, your personal assets receive some protection from legal action brought against your business. Be aware liability protection and tax treatment may vary depending on the state where a business is incorporated matters, so it's important to talk with an attorney and tax professional.

SCORE™

This column is provided by SCORE, an organization dedicated to helping small businesses start, grow and succeed. The local SCORE chapter provide free and confidential mentoring in management, accounting, marketing and business plan preparation.

### Limited liability company (LLC)

You can form an LLC as either a single-member (single owner) or multi-member (multiple owners). This legal structure provides the limited liability advantages of a corporation and the flexibility of a sole proprietorship. As with sole proprietorships/partnerships, an LLC's profits and losses flow through to owners' personal income tax returns. In addition, LLCs offer some tax flexibility; you can elect to have your LLC taxed as an S Corporation or a C Corporation.

### S Corporation

The S Corporation structure has gained the favor of many small business owners because it offers one level of tax at the shareholder level and some relief from the self-employment tax burden on owners. Only an owner's reasonable wages/salaries are subject to self-employment (FICA) tax, and profit distributions to shareholders flow through to the individual shareholders' income tax returns.

### C Corporation

C Corporations offer more extensive personal liability protection and growth potential than other structures, and the way income taxes are applied differentiates this structure, too. With a C Corp, income is taxed at the corporate tax rate when your business earns it. Profits are then taxed again at the personal income tax rates when shareholders' distributions are made.

### Partnerships

Another important type of business structure, partnerships come in different legal forms, including corporations, limit liability, and managerial control. Tax treatment and personal liability protection vary depending on the type of partnership you form and the state in which you incorporate.

### Get the right help

The information provided is meant to share some of the basics you should know when deciding on the business structure for your small business. It is not intended as professional legal or accounting advice. Carefully consider your type of business and long-term plans when determining the best legal structure for your business.

We also recommend you consult a reputable attorney and business tax expert for insight and guidance. If you need help finding trustworthy professionals in your area, talk with your local SCORE chapter for recommendations. The Kalamazoo Chapter phone is 269-344-1419. Visit SCORE at www.score.org and locally at www.swmi.score.org.

# hp OUTDOORS

**Submitting hunting or fishing photos**

Have a behemoth buck, a tremendous turkey or super-sized salmon? Please submit photos to sports@TheHP.com.

Your photo must be in focus, all persons in the photo must be identified, and the general location of the hunt must be provided (for example, 10-point buck shot in Benton Township, black bear shot near Munising, Mich., etc.)

# Snowy owl feels at home in local parking lot

A snowy owl was seen and photographed on Dec. 19 by Jo-Anne Gruchot of St. Joseph, as it perched atop a stop sign along an access road connecting parking lots of Wal-Mart, Best Buy, and other businesses in Benton Township.

It is not uncommon for snowy owls to show up in large parking lots around shopping malls or large box stores, as they resemble the vast treeless tundra where the snowy owl is accustomed to nesting during the summer. The snowy owl has also been known to be attracted to large, flat roofs of large buildings such as malls, supermarkets, etc. The vicinity around the Orchards Mall, Meijer and other businesses in Benton Township would be a good place to search for snowy owls because of the abundance of large parking lots and large, flat roofs.

**Jonathan Wuepper**
Southwest Michigan Wildlife

Other places to look for snowy owls include large open farm fields, airports, beaches, or any other places that may mimic their summer tundra home. The snowy owl may be active during broad daylight, as it spends much of its life at high latitudes during the height of summer with little or no darkness.

Snowy owls nest in North America in northern Alaska and extreme northern Canada, among the treeless tundra. Their wintering range occurs over the tundra, south to the northern tier of the Lower 48 states, occasionally south to California, Texas and the Gulf states.

While snowy owls appear in Michigan seasonally from fall through spring, their abundance is irregular and fluctuates drastically from year to year based on the availability of food, mainly small rodents in the north.

A barred owl was seen on Dec. 7, just off Ridge Road in Lincoln Township by Paul Westmaas of Stevensville. The fact that the owl was out at all was likely in part due to the fact that it was a rather overcast and dreary day. The species is chiefly nocturnal, but occasionally will come out on overcast days. It is a year-round, non-migratory resident.

Photo provided / Jo-Anne Gruchot

**A snowy owl on Dec. 19 atop a stop sign near Meijer in Benton Township.**

Barred owls are named for the vertical barring on their chests. They are closely related to the spotted owl of the Pacific Northwest. The barred owl prefers mature coniferous and deciduous forests in which to live, rarely venturing out of any forest during its lifetime.

The species was once the most abundant owl in our region until the area's forests were cleared for farming and homes. It probably held on in the wooded river bottoms of the Galien, Paw Paw and St. Joseph Rivers during the 20th century, but was very uncommon locally until the end of the 20th century.

Since the 1990s, barred owl populations have been increasing across our region as second-growth forests have taken hold. The species is now found among larger forest tracts in Berrien, Cass and Van Buren Counties.

A very inquisitive eastern chipmunk checked out a Santa Claus hat at the home of Tom and Janet Roberts in Dowagiac on Dec. 16.

Eastern chipmunks, contrary to common belief, do not technically hibernate. However, when bad winter weather arrives they do sleep through much of the cold and snow. True hibernation involves an extremely slow heartbeat, which the chipmunk does not have. For example, the woodchuck, which is a true hibernator, has a normal heartbeat of about 80 beats per minute. It slows to 4-5 beats per minute during hibernation.

In Berrien County we have just four mammals that are true hibernators: the woodchuck, little brown bat, meadow jumping mouse, and thirteen-lined ground squirrel.

There have been some noteworthy sight records of birds in recent days worth mentioning. On December 20th, Caleb Putnam of Sparta, Mich. and Allison Village of Berrien Springs located a Nashville warbler along the edge of the St. Joseph River near Andrews University. This species of wood warbler should have been in the tropics by November. There are very few winter records of Nashville warbler for Michigan. The record mentioned here was supported by a photo but it wasn't considered good enough for publication.

Chace Scholten of Grand Haven observed a flyover red crossbill on Dec. 7, near the Lake Michigan shoreline in Benton Township. The red crossbill is an irruptive northern finch from Canada that may be absent many years from our region. Its movements southward are determined by its food supply in the north.

Another eastern phoebe, a species of flycatcher, was seen on Dec. 24 at Sarett Nature Center's Brown Sanctuary by David Ferris of Coloma.

Photo provided / Paul Westmaas

**A barred owl on Dec. 7 off Ridge Road in Lincoln Township.**

Photo provided / Janet Roberts

**An eastern chipmunk investigates Santa's hat at Tom and Janet Roberts' home in Dowagiac.**

Christmas Day marked the first significant snow of the season in Southwest Michigan, and it resulted in two common grackle sightings at area feeders. One at Eileen Horne's feeder in Eau Claire, and the other at Janice Clark's feeders near Stevensville. Common grackles are likely present in small numbers year-round in this area, but go unnoticed until bad weather arrives and they show up at feeders.

*Jonathan Wuepper is an area naturalist. Report your sightings to him at wuepperj@gmail.com.*

# Restoring longleaf pines, keystone of once vast ecosystems

**By JANET McCONNAUGHEY**
Associated Press

DESOTO NATIONAL FOREST — When European settlers came to North America, fire-dependent savannas anchored by lofty pines with footlong needles covered much of what became the southern United States.

Yet by the 1990s, logging and clear-cutting for farms and development had all but eliminated longleaf pines and the grasslands beneath where hundreds of plant and animal species flourished.

Now, thanks to a pair of modern day Johnny Appleseeds, landowners, government agencies and nonprofits are working in nine coastal states from Virginia to Texas to bring back pines named for the long needles prized by Native Americans for weaving baskets.

Longleaf pines now cover as much as 7,300 square miles – and more than one-quarter of that has been planted since 2010.

"I like to say we rescued longleaf from the dustbin. I don't think we had any idea how successful we'd be," said Rhett Johnson, who founded The Longleaf Alliance in 1995 with another Auburn University forestry professor.

That's not to say that the tall, straight and widely spaced pines will ever gain anything near their once vast extent. But their reach is, after centuries, expanding rather than contracting.

Scientists estimate that longleaf savannas once covered up to 143,750 square miles, an area bigger than Germany. By the 1990s, less than 3 percent remained in scattered patches. Most are in areas too wet or dry to farm.

Fire suppression played a critical role on the longleaf's decline. Fires clear and fertilize ground that longleaf seeds must touch to sprout. Properly timed, they also spark seedlings' first growth spurt. And, crucially for the entire ecosystem, they kill shrubs and hardwood trees that would otherwise block the sun from seedlings, grasses and wildflowers.

"The diversity of the longleaf pine system is below our knees," sad Keith Coursey, silviculturist for about 70 percent of the 529,000-acre DeSoto National Forest in south Mississippi.

Of the 1,600 plant species found only in the Southeast, nearly 900 are only in longleaf forests, including species that trap bugs as well as fire-adapted grasses and wildflowers.

The forests harbor turkeys and quail – but also about 100 other kinds of birds, nearly 40 types of animals and 170 reptile and amphibian species found only among longleaf. One is the gopher tortoise whose burrows shelter scores of animal species including mice, foxes, rabbits, snakes, even birds, and hundreds of kinds of insects.

Janet McConnaughey / AP

**Silviciulturist Keith Coursey stands in a thicket of gallberries – one of the shrubs that would block the sun from grasses and wildflowers in longleaf pine forests without regular fires – in front of a stand of 80-85-foot-tall longleaf pines in the DeSoto National Forest on Nov. 18. An intensive effort in nine coastal states from Virginia to Texas is bringing back longleaf pines – armor-plated trees that bear footlong needles and need regular fires to spark their seedlings' growth and to support wildly diverse grasslands that include carnivorous plants and harbor burrowing tortoises.**

Plants and animals have lost ground along with the longleaf. Nearly 30 are endangered or threatened. Dozens more are being studied to decide whether they should be protected.

Johnson, who retired in 2006 as director of Auburn's Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center in south Alabama, said working surrounded by longleaf made him realize that stands were losing quality and shrinking in range. "Just as alarming, people who understood longleaf were disappearing as well," he said.

Johnson and alliance cofounder Dean Gjerstad spread the word about the tree's importance. "We were like Johnny Appleseed – we were on the road all the time," said Johnson, who retired from the alliance in 2012.

By 2005, the alliance, government agencies, nonprofits, universities and private partners were working together. In 2010, they launched America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative, with a goal of having 12,500 square miles (32,370 square kilometers) of longleaf by 2025.

The initiative built on efforts by federal and state agencies including the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service to provide incentives for owners to return land to longleaf pines, Johnson said.

Most of the land planted in the last 10 years had been "highly erodible cropland," he said. "Better a longleaf plantation than a cotton field."

The initiative is trying to ensure that at least half the restored land is close enough to existing forests that plants and animals could, over generations, turn the new stands into functioning ecosystems.

When the ecosystem returns, landowners can look forward to annual income from activities such as hunting and wildlife photography rather than only from intermittent timber harvests, said Kevin Norton, acting chief of the National Resources Conservation Service.

Because most longleaf acreage is privately owned, 80 percent to 85 percent of the planting so far has been on private land, said Carol Denhof, president of The Longleaf Alliance.

Another 5,160 square miles (13,360 square kilometers) must be planted or reclaimed from stands overly mixed with other tree species to meet the initiative's 2025 deadline, she said. "I'm hopeful we can get there but ... we have a lot of work to do."

About 400 acres (160 hectares) of land returned to longleaf were planted by the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, for their needles. But branches from most of the first planting are now too high to reach. So Gesse Bullock, the tribe's fire management specialist, said he is pushing for another planting on the 10,200-acre (4,100-hectare) reservation.

Basket weavers include the tribe's realty officer, Elliott Abbey. "When I was younger," he said, "I thought it was work – something my aunts made me do,"

Now, Abbey said, "It strikes me in the heart that this could die out."

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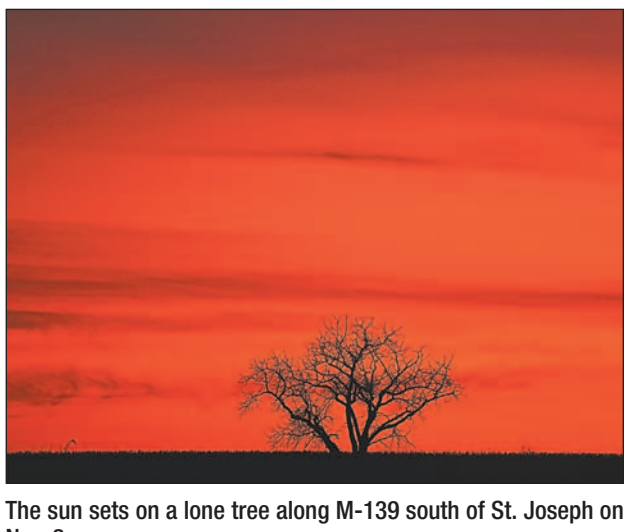
The sun shines on fallen leaves, caught in a fence near Riverview Park in St. Joseph, on Nov. 9.

General manager Ray Mays wears a mask as he cleans a window at Silver Harbor Brewing Company in St. Joseph on Nov. 12. Area restaurants are taking extensive precautions to protect customers and staff during the pandemic.



The sun sets on a lone tree along M-139 south of St. Joseph on Nov. 2.

# November and December: A Second Look

*Photos from the files of The Herald-Palladium Staff Photographer Don Campbell*

Lydia Dwyer, 9, of St. Joseph, flies off a jump while sledding at Kiwanis Park in St. Joseph on Monday.

Hikers take advantage of the unseasonably warm weather on Nov. 9 while walking among the dunes at Warren Dunes State Park in Sawyer.

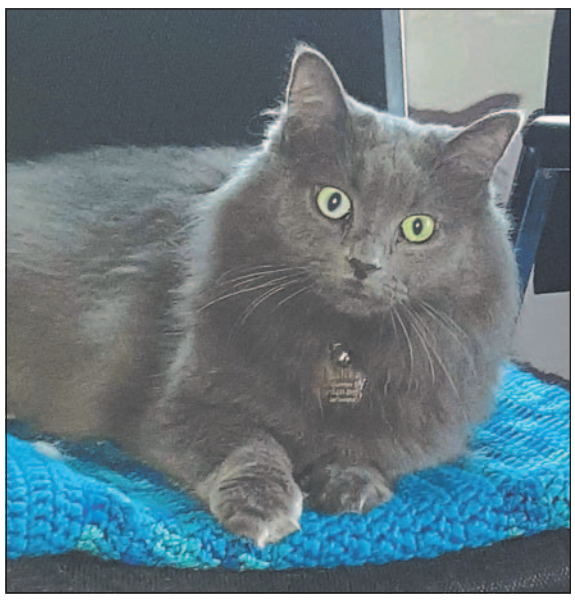
Holiday lights frame "The Spirit of the American Doughboy" memorial Dec. 4 during Light Up the Bluff along Lake Bluff Park in St. Joseph. The annual display is sponsored by the St. Joseph Improvement Association in partnership with the city.

A man leaves footprints as he walks down Western Avenue in Benton Harbor on Nov. 24, after a brief storm moved through Southwest Michigan.

Kiteboarders, surfers and paddleboarders take advantage of windy conditions along Lake Michigan on Nov. 19 at Tiscornia Beach in St. Joseph.

Skiers and snowboarders try out the runs at Timber Ridge Ski Area in Gobles on Tuesday.

## PET OF THE WEEK



Meet Malika. Her name means Queen, and she sure looks like royalty. A bit shy at first, she warms up quickly. Malika is gray, 3 years old, spayed and current on vaccines. Find Seven Star's adoption application online at www.sevenstarrescue.org/adoptionfoster-application.html, or leave a message at 588-0470.

## VOLUNTEERS

### Closet of Hope

Baroda Bible Church is seeking volunteers to help in its food pantry and "Closet of Hope," which help those in need.

The pantry and closet are open from 5-6 p.m. Mondays and 10-11 a.m. Thursdays and Saturdays.

The church needs volunteers to help sort donations and run the closet.

For more information, call 422-1731.

### An After School Experience

Youth Development Company/PAL is seeking volunteer tutors for its After School Experience. Volunteers should have a passion for working with children in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Those who have an hour to help children with homework, tutor or lend an empathetic ear to someone who maybe had a rough day are encouraged to volunteer.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

### Help foster families

Foster Closet of Michigan – Berrien County provides free items to foster families and children. The items help rebuild foster children's lives by giving them something to call their own, and it helps relieve some of the financial strain on foster parents.

Volunteers are needed to help open the closet's doors to the public. The closet is open twice a week for two hours.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

### Blood drive helpers

American Red Cross of Southwest Michigan is looking for blood drive volunteers in Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties.

Volunteers will provide a warm, friendly greeting to all donors, instruct and help with registration, explain the importance of blood donations, help schedule appointments, screen blood donors for health concerns, and offer refreshments and conversation.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

### Health screeners

The Berrien County Health Department needs help as it brings back services.

The department has a health screening upon entry, and needs volunteers to help manage the station at the main entrance of its Benton Harbor office.

The station also provides face masks to those who arrive without one.

This is a no-contact position. Volunteers can maintain social distancing from others and personal protective equipment will be provided.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

United Way of Southwest Michigan

The Herald-Palladium, in conjunction with the United Way of Southwest Michigan, publishes volunteer opportunities every Saturday.

To view all current listings, please visit **volunteer.uwsm.org.**

### Feeding America

To make sure fresh, healthy food gets distributed quickly, Feeding America West Michigan developed the mobile food pantry.

Mobile pantries deliver fresh fruits, vegetables, dairy products and baked goods to people in need, often on the same day the food is donated.

Volunteers help distribute food, carry heavier groceries for people who need help, and give a smile to those who are experiencing food insecurity.

For upcoming mobile food pantry dates and locations, visit www.feedwm.org.

To volunteer, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

### Military care

The American Red Cross Hero Care Network provides services to military members, veterans and their families around the world.

The American Red Cross of Southwest Michigan is looking for volunteers to help with tasks such as sending emergency communications for deployed service members, communicating with families of newly enlisted service members, and referring veterans and their families to local programs.

Training will be provided, and volunteers can work remotely.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

### Health care heroes

PACE of Southwest Michigan is looking for medically trained volunteers to help support their staff and clients as a nurse and nursing assistant.

The nurse will provide care to participants in the PACE Center and in the community. The nursing assistant will perform participant care activities and other tasks as assigned to assist the primary care, therapy and adult day health staff.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

**Give. Advocate. Volunteer.**

United Way of Southwest Michigan mobilizes the caring power of communities to fight for the health, education and financial stability of every person. Volunteering your time and talent to create lasting solutions that improve life for everyone is an important part in United Way accomplishing this work. Volunteer today and join the fight, by visiting www.uwsm.org.

# A hair-owing tale

**Andy Steinke**

On Tuesday, something unusual happened: I had my hair cut.

No, it's not unusual for me to get a haircut (well, in years not ending in 20, anyway). What's unusual is that I didn't do it myself.

I can count on one hand how many times I've paid to have someone else cut my hair, and this was one of those times.

In the past, my options have been straightforward: grab the clippers and give it a buzz, or grab the razor and scrape it clean. Both options are free as long as I have the required supplies in stock.

When I was a boy, I'd walk next door and let my grandma buzz my hair. She'd always dust my neck with baby powder when she was done so I could go back to playing outside without being itchy. After she died, my mom took over trimming duties until I was brave enough to start doing it for myself.

The system worked until I moved to Minnesota for college. I didn't have my own trimmer at first (a short-lived oversight), so I ventured out twice to lower my ears.

That was more than a decade ago. That's how long it's been since I've seen the inside of a salon or barbershop.

When the pandemic began in mid-March, I started working from home. So I let my hair grow (the dream of every hirsute man who'd rather not shave anyway). I knew I wouldn't see anyone for awhile, so I wasn't going to waste money on razor blades (sorry, Dollar Shave Club).

But "awhile" turned into weeks, and weeks turned into months. Before I knew it, I had 9 ½ months of hair growing wildly from the small team of functioning follicles I have left. I was determined to let it grow until I returned to the office full time (my visual representation of how long this pandemic has persisted), but people were starting to confuse me with a caveman (even with my face mask on), so it felt like it was finally time for a trim.

And my wife made me a hair appointment.

Her hairdresser is an old friend from high school, so I couldn't say no, but I also didn't have much direction for her based on my past hairstyles of buzzed and bald.

"Do you know what you want?" she asked.

"Just make it shorter," I said.

I let my wife tell her what "I" wanted, since she was the reason we were there. I might have been able to go a few more months before my mullet really started bothering my neck.

But now that the deed is done, I feel good about it. I might even go back (to the hairdresser, not my long hair). It's nice to have less hair slapping me in the face when I go outside in my slippers to get the mail, and the new 'do is sure to give me a fresh start for 2021.

Probably the only person who'll be sad is my daughter, who won't be able to put ponytails in my hair anymore. I guess I'll have to start growing my beard out for her. It's not like I'm going to see anyone for awhile.

*Andy Steinke is features editor at The Herald-Palladium. Email him at asteinke@TheHP.com, or follow him on Twitter @Decoding Dadhood.*

Photo provided / Lucy O'Donoghue / AP

Although quarantining in 2020 limited Lucy O'Donoghue's opportunities for travel, she found ways to focus on her two sons by taking them for "micro-holidays" at a beach near their Georgia home.

# Wiser resolutions?

## *Lessons from COVID's unfulfilled ones*

**By MELISSA RAYWORTH**
Associated Press

Lucy O'Donoghue had wanted to frame and hang them – just three printed pictures that had been sitting in her suburban Atlanta house since the year began. That's all. Yet with a full-time job and two small kids, she hadn't found the time.

But when COVID-19 slowed life to a quarantine-induced crawl, she began working remotely. It seemed like the perfect time to get this – and a slew of other small projects – done.

Eight months later, O'Donoghue finally walked the two short blocks to a store near her house and bought a trio of ready-made frames.

"I put the pieces of art up in my house, and that made me so happy," she says. "How is it that something that only took me 45 minutes has taken me over a year to get around to doing?"

The answer, as it has been with so much, is this: Because 2020.

Ten months ago, Americans waded into unfamiliar waters. For many who were not plunged immediately into economic or medical emergency, it was as though some strange, protracted, fragmented snow day had begun. Plans and promises bloomed on social media like spring flowers. Bread was baked. Projects were launched.

"With the greatest of intentions, in the first few weeks people had rearranged their shoe closets and made their spice racks alphabetical," says psychologist Deborah Serani, an adjunct professor at Adelphi University in New York.

But when life is difficult, sustaining even a small amount of momentum can be tough.

### Psychological labor

The pandemic requires new levels of vigilance and decision-making, and it has disrupted millions of families. The presidential election required deft calibration to get along peaceably with relatives or friends with differing views. The year saw an escalation in crises social, racial and environmental.

All of this has required tremendous psychological labor. That work is invisible, but it takes its toll, says Catherine Sanderson, chair of the psychology department at Amherst College.

For much of the nation, the sense in the early days of quarantine that the disruption would be brief soon melted into an amorphous uncertainty.

"Uncertainty," Sanderson says, "is extraordinarily psychologically taxing."

The normal guardrails that govern the days – getting dressed and out the door on time, driving kids to sports practices and dance classes on a tight schedule in the evenings – disappeared for many. So while having extra time might have seemed like a bright spot, it was also disorienting.

With too much unstructured time, "I feel this aimlessness," says Steph Auteri, a writer who lives in Verona, N.J. "The busier I am, the better I operate. The more time I have, I start to get down in the dumps."

That's a common experience, says Serani: In the United States, "it's a really high-octane life. And it was slammed. We hit the brakes and everybody had to stop, and it was hard for many people."

This year has required us to create new structures. That takes time and energy.

Pre-pandemic, "on a Saturday, you wouldn't wake up in your office. There's a distinction. And now, you have to actually think about, 'What am I doing?,'" Sanderson says. "It requires a level of planning that you're not used to and that we don't have practice with."

Yet amid all this uncertainty and psychological labor, people are looking back and realizing they did discover a quiet productivity.

In her Queens, N.Y., home, months of quarantine led Neesa Sunar to return to playing viola after many years away.

Auteri made progress, too, reorganizing her schedule around helping her 6-year-old daughter with remote learning, and eventually launching an educational website in time for the start of school in September.

Yoga teacher Pamela Eggleston shifted her teaching online, filming a self-care course for Yoga Journal to help people thrive during this challenging year. Teaching exclusively online "was a challenge for me. But I did it," she says. Though she's based in the Washington, D.C., area, she soon had students tuning in from as far away as Scotland.

And something else: She returned to social justice activism this year.

"I've done more of that than I had done in a while," Eggleston says. "It feels good to me to return to these issues. They never leave me, as a Black woman."

### What really matters

Tough times can be clarifying. They aren't always so, but they can be.

People may not have tackled the home improvement projects they planned or written novels. But many focused on their own well-being, and their kids', and asked themselves what really matters.

In the past, business coach Rachel Brenke says, she might have seen quarantine as a time to be highly productive – and would have beaten herself up if she wasn't.

"I'm normally someone that thrives on always being busy, jumping from one thing to another," she says.

Instead, she prioritized keeping a healthy balance between managing her business and connecting with her family.

"My big thing this year, just out of purely trying to focus on my kids, myself and my mental health, was simplicity. So I'm carrying that over into 2021, with intentional simplifying," she says.

So with those early-quarantine resolutions in mind, how do we handle this weekend, the moment of shaking off 2020 and invoking fresh New Year's resolutions for 2021?

Serani expects many people's resolutions will be focused less on material goals and more on what they've decided is most important.

That might even include gratitude for the old, familiar, repetitive routines they used to dread.

"I've sort of longed for that bit of the day where I've got my handbag over my shoulder and my lunch bag. And I've shut down the laptop and I'm walking back to my car in the same parking spot as always, and I feel the fresh air," O'Donoghue says. "I almost dream of that moment."

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# Populism OK to GOP, as long as it's fake

**E.J. Dionne**

It's fitting that President Donald Trump's final days in office are offering a full display of the contradictions, follies, deceptions and plain uselessness of Trumpian Republicanism.

And to make sure that even the ending of the Trump Era is turned into a circus, Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., who hopes to inherit Trump's constituency for a 2024 presidential run, announced on Wednesday he'll object to the counting of the electoral college votes next week. Hawley won't stop President-elect Joe Biden from winning; he seeks only to give Trump's lies about election rigging one more run.

We are seeing the many layers of Republican hypocrisy. The GOP was unwilling to buck the most scandalous aspects of his presidency as long as he delivered on the core conservative agenda of tax cuts and right-wing judges.

But when the normally fake-populist president became, momentarily, a semi-real one and endorsed upping Americans' pandemic relief checks from $600 to $2,000, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., got the vapors.

Wanting more, Trump threatened to veto the $900 billion relief and stimulus bill, which McConnell was never crazy about because he wanted less.

But Trump's threat turned out to be one of those attention-grabbing but ultimately empty gestures that have been his stock in trade. In effect he said, "Never mind," and signed the bill on Sunday. Yes, it will be nice to have a president who measures success by results, not by ratings or retweets.

Still, by making an issue of the $2,000 checks, Trump called his own party's bluff.

To maintain their Senate majority, Republicans need to hold the two seats at stake in next Tuesday's Georgia runoff. Republican Sens. David Perdue and Kelly Loeffler were no friends of a big economic relief package, and Perdue said he opposed stimulus checks on at least three different occasions.

Conversions are a wonderful thing to behold, especially when they are motivated by pure political panic. On the stimulus issue, Perdue and Loeffler were being hammered by their Democratic opponents, Jon Ossoff and the Rev. Raphael Warnock. Ossoff saw no need for subtlety. "You send me and Reverend Warnock to the Senate," he declared, "and we will put money in your pocket."

Ossoff was persuasive. Now,both Republicans support the bigger checks.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., swiftly moved a bill for $2,000 checks through the House (in a win for acronyms, it's called the Cash Act, as in "Caring for Americans with Supplemental Help") and picked up 44 Republican votes in the process.

Thus McConnell's bind: He doesn't want to approve the checks. But he doesn't want Perdue and Loeffler to lose. And, to that end, he doesn't want a big fight with Trump before next Tuesday.

McConnell's solution: Write a bill that makes it look as though you're giving $2,000 a chance while killing the idea by making it impossible for Democrats to vote for it. McConnell thus proposed rolling the checks in with two other Trumpian ideas.

He'd repeal Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, which provides immunity for website publishers from liability for third-party material, while also setting up a commission to investigate allegations of voter fraud.

The commission is particularly odious because its purpose would be to further Republican falsehoods about voter fraud and thus create new excuses for the voter-suppression crowd in Republican-controlled states to make it harder to vote.

There's a case that some of the money spent on checks could be more carefully targeted to the unemployed and the poor. But that option is not on the table. Since the compromise stimulus bill was kept far smaller than it should have been by McConnell and his conservative allies (including Perdue and Loeffler), the $2,000 checks are now the most politically efficient way to get cash to Americans who need the help while also providing an additional boost the economy needs (and McConnell would deny).

What can we learn from this episode? For starters: If Georgia's voters want serious legislating next year about the crisis we face, they need to elect Ossoff and Warnock. Biden's decision to make another campaign visit on their behalf shows that, however much he hopes he can work with Republicans, he knows he'll be far better off with a Senate not in the hands of the Grim Reaper, as McConnell has proudly called himself.

That's because Republicans were only willing to embrace Trump's "populism" as long as it was fake – or of a right-wing sort that elevated the politics of race and immigration. The moment Trump started talking about real money for non-elites, the GOP leadership threw its hands up in horror. McConnell's maneuvers this week are the last gasp of his party's hypocrisy, rooted in a burning desire for working class votes unmatched by a will to do anything to earn them.

*E.J. Dionne is a columnist for The Washington Post.*

## LETTERS

### Cult-like support of Trump is troubling

**Editor,**

In this post-election period, millions of people believe that Democrats are stealing the election from President Trump rather than that President Trump and supporters are trying to steal the election from the American people. He used this tactic even before the election, and people, even knowing this, went into post-election with behaviors just as he desired. There were hyper-partisans looking for problems and creating misinformation that, when investigated, showed no evidence of any widespread fraud.

I have read of a few lingering issues with lax signature verifications on absentee ballots that are likely true. They are still under investigation but will not change the election outcome. There were numerous lawsuits thrown out by Trump-appointed judges because they were simply rhetoric with no evidence. Every truthful Republican that has publicly stated that there was not widespread fraud is immediately turned against by Trump and supporters and is now to them a bad Republican.

I am a lifelong Republican and a fundamentalist Christian. I supported the Lincoln Project and voted against President Trump because he has always represented the biggest risk to my civil rights. His leadership is terrible. He has eroded our confidence in the government, the CIA, the FBI, our military leaders and Congress. His continued attacks on the media has further eroded our confidence in knowing any truth. And now a large part of the country has no faith in the voting system except to believe whatever they are told by President Trump, yet he has lied again and again.

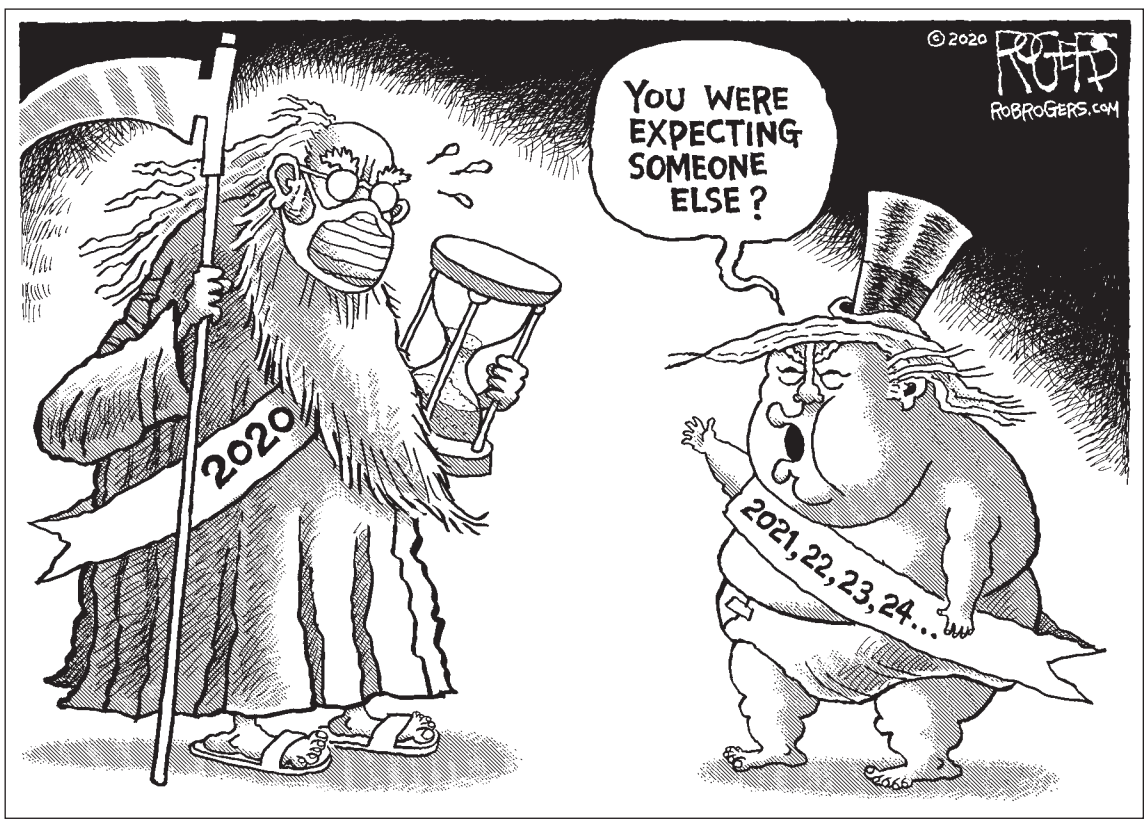
When I was growing up, we were taught to not believe everything we read or heard. Now, with technology, we are bombarded with information, opinions and misinformation. It is easier to react to whatever we read or hear rather than to take a few minutes and look for the facts through multiple, legitimate sources.

It has been distressing to watch Christians follow a path of blind trust in President Trump when it is so very clear to me that he is not trustworthy. God has always been in control no matter who has been, is, or will be president. Maybe the lesson for Christians isn't that God chose Donald J. Trump to be president and save the United States. Maybe God wanted a Trump administration to show us what could happen with the wrong type of leadership and thus shake our complacency.

For me, the danger to civil liberties over the past four years has been chilling. Given time, our freedom of religion would have also been at risk. As a lifelong Catholic, President Biden will protect my civil liberty and my freedom to worship as I choose more than President Trump ever would have.

We all knew that President Trump would try to steal the election if he lost, but I believed that pro-Trump Christians would look for truth and not be distracted. I misread the cult-like support. I just don't understand.

**Joe Hanchey**
**St. Joseph**




### Hypocrites suddenly worried about deficit

**Editor,**

As we all kick 2020 out the window and open the door to welcome 2021, it should be mentioned the state of hypocrisy that exists in Washington, D.C., mainly Mitch McConnell and friends.

McConnell and "the fiscal conservatives" are suddenly paying lip service to the national debt. They have not always been so concerned. They had no problem approving and passing massive tax cuts for high income corporations and individuals. They also allowed a sea of red during George W. Bush Iraq War and Afghanistan.

Now we have stimulus checks that in the end do not amount to much, but no, they just can't approve that. The new old hypocrites.

2021 cant get here soon enough.

**Brian Hauch**
**Sodus**

# A better 2021?

**Cal Thomas**

I don't like making predictions for a new year because they are just guesses and like palm readers, fortune-tellers and "experts," guesses are often wrong.

The point was proved last year when I predicted Donald Trump's re-election and could not foresee the COVID-19 virus, as few did, or its impact on the economy and our optimistic spirit.

In a recent Wall Street Journal article, author Bob Greene recalled the 75th anniversary of the film "Meet Me in St. Louis" in which Judy Garland sings "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." The lyric contains the optimistic lines, "someday soon we all will be together" and "faithful friends who are dear to us will be near to us once more."

After more than four years of World War II, that was a hopeful dream on which the country was asked to go ahead and "hang a shining star" on their Christmas trees.

Is that optimism of generations past valid for our immediate future as we witness the country being torn apart by divisiveness? I am not sure.

One line of that lyric, which Greene did not mention is: "Here we are as in olden days, happy golden days of yore." I'm afraid we will not return to those days during which self-control, personal responsibility and living within one's means were the norm and taught in our schools and mostly modeled by culture, including Hollywood films and the imminent influence of television. Those golden days are not only gone, they are largely forgotten.

The national debt, an affront to previous generations, including Republican politicians, grows and is approaching $28 trillion. President-elect Joe Biden wants to spend more. No one is calling for an audit and an overhaul of unnecessary spending and failed programs. We are the divided states of America, no longer "under God," but under suspicion of each other.

It has gotten bad. Before Christmas, The Washington Post featured a nearly full-page cartoon on its op-ed page depicting certain Republicans as rats. The Post singled out Republican state legislators, state attorneys general and others who sought to overturn the outcome of the November election. This reminded me of the dehumanization of Jews that led to the Holocaust.

One of the "rats" was named Rep. Steve Scalise, R-La., a member of the House GOP leadership. On June 14, 2017, Scalise and four other people were shot on an Alexandria, Virginia, baseball field by James Hodgkinson, a left-wing activist, a Bernie Sanders supporter and a rabid anti-Trumper with a record of domestic violence. Did the hatred generated by our modern politics contribute to that act and the bile we sling at each other? It could be argued that it did.

The original lyrics to "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" were anything but bright and optimistic. They were "Have yourself a merry little Christmas// It may be your last // Next year we may all be living in the past."

Judy Garland protested, saying they were too depressing and little Margaret O'Brien to whom she sang the song would cry and the world would consider her a monster.

The lyrics were changed but the original ones may be more reflective of our current state of mind as we enter 2021. We can only hope that "next year all our troubles will be out of sight." Given our present circumstances, I am doubtful.

*Cal Thomas is a columnist for Tribune Content Agency.*

# Can Biden negotiate us to a better America?

**Jay Ambrose**

During the Democratic presidential primary, nothing seemed to haunt Joe Biden more than the charge of how totally, completely racist it was for him as a senator in the 1970s to negotiate with Southern, white supremacist segregationists. Why in the world would he even talk to such other senators as James O. Eastland of Mississippi or Herman E. Talmadge of Georgia?

Because that's how democracy works, my fellow Americans. If you are in the Senate, you don't ignore your policy antagonists or just simply hate them and screech about their evils or dream about their political demise. If their votes are just maybe crucial for some end you see as vital, you get along with them, make sharp arguments, probe the details for reasonable, available compromises. You try to get something done even if the best is still out of reach.

That's what Biden did, and he helped a march forward on a foremost issue in American domestic affairs, nowhere close to what is ultimately needed, but a whole lot better than nothing. Negotiation is a major skill in the president-elect's lap, and he will need it mostly to deal productively with Senate Republicans if they win two Senate seats in Georgia and keep control of the Senate. Otherwise, he will need it to survive extreme Democratic leftists.

Actually, he will need it to work with both camps no matter what happens.

If you think he will surely flunk, consider how an amateur president named Barack Obama was faced with breaking a Senate filibuster by Republicans on his proposed stimulus bill at the start of his administration. Three Republican senators had to agree to a vote on the measure to crush the tactic, and a Politico article tells us how Biden made 14 phone calls to Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania who likely sighed as he finally signed on. Biden was also a flap-jaw success with two others, hallelujah for Obama.

A Mitch McConnell-Biden brotherhood pledge is hard to imagine, but keep in mind that it's misleading to say McConnell, then the Senate minority leader, warned two years into Obama's first term that he wanted him to be a one-term president. His point was that he would do business with Obama if he would meet the Republicans halfway. He did not want Obama "to fail," he said, but "to change." It is also phony to say McConnell's the one who has recently held back on virus spending. The Senate majority leader and other Republican members of Congress have pushed over and over for virus relief to small businesses and workers while Democrats have said forget it more than 40 times, according to a Newsweek fact-check.

To the extent that Biden is truly a centrist, a Republican Senate could suit his likings more than the whoops and shouts of Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., or Vice President Kamala Harris, three examples of the center not holding. He could more easily avoid packing the Supreme Court or a Green New Deal that would be worse than climate change. Either way, he knows the workings of Congress extremely well, or used to.

That's part of the question with this new but elderly president to be, whether his mental capacities are anywhere close to what they once were, and it's the case as well that he has already veered into a number of positions to worry about. He made an excellent speech about national unity after he won the presidential election, but blistering bias against a self-immolating working class is downright frightening as a pompous brand of upper-class ideology is saying goodbye to America's greatness, traditional norms and belief in moral truth that does not waver.

*Jay Ambrose is a columnist for Tribune News Service.*

## BEETLE BAILEY

HERE'S YOUR I.D. BACK, NOW PLEASE SIGN THIS
OKAY, BUT WHY ALL THE FORMALITY ?
GREG + MORT WALKER
YOUR MOM'S DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS SAY: "KEEP SERGEANT AWAY FROM COOKIES"
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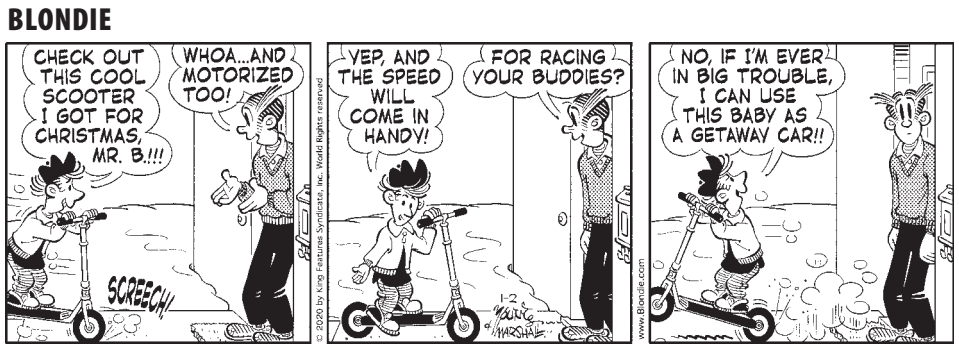
1/2

## BLONDIE


CHECK OUT THIS COOL SCOOTER I GOT FOR CHRISTMAS, MR. B.!!!
WHOA...AND MOTORIZED TOO!
SCREECH!
YEP, AND THE SPEED WILL COME IN HANDY!
FOR RACING YOUR BUDDIES?
NO, IF I'M EVER IN BIG TROUBLE, I CAN USE THIS BABY AS A GETAWAY CAR!!
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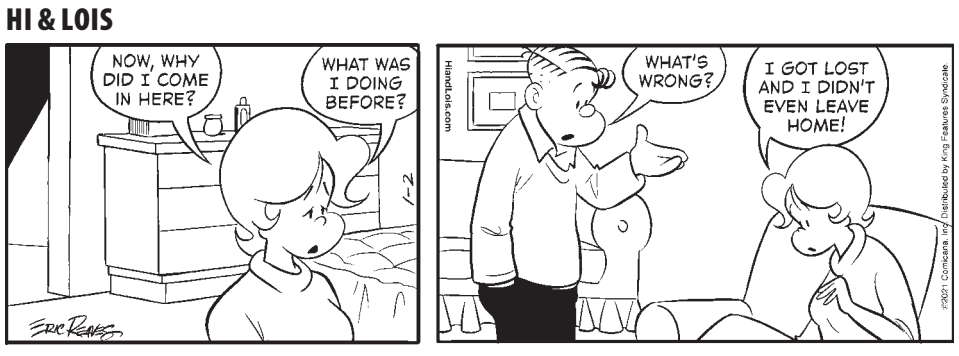
www.Blondie.com
1-2
DENIS LEARY & MARSHALL

## HI & LOIS


NOW, WHY DID I COME IN HERE?
WHAT WAS I DOING BEFORE?
1-2
ERIC REYNOLDS
HiandLois.com
WHAT'S WRONG?
I GOT LOST AND I DIDN'T EVEN LEAVE HOME!
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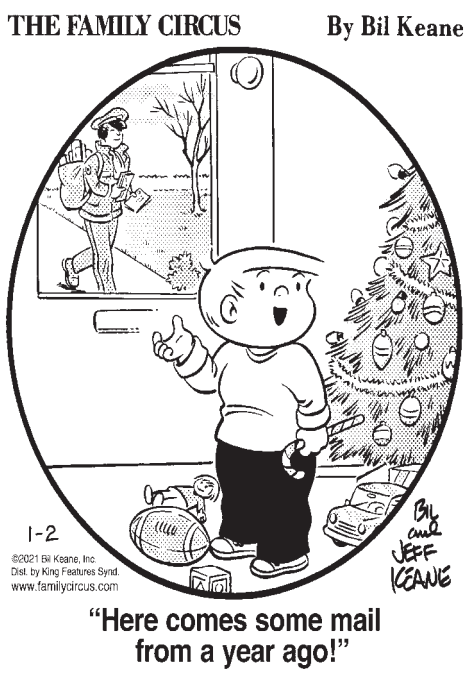
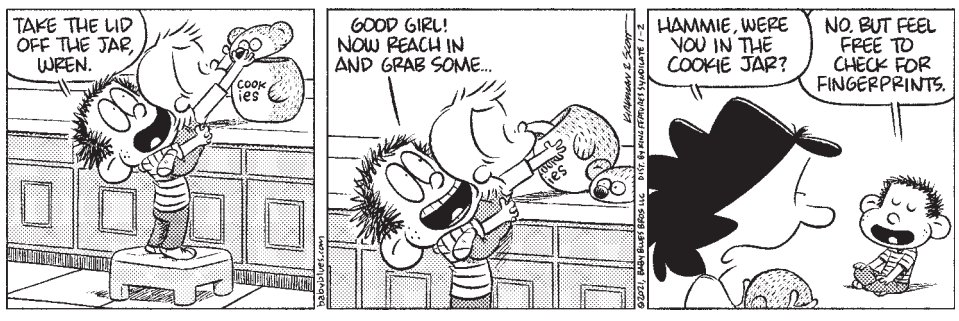
## FAMILY CIRCUS

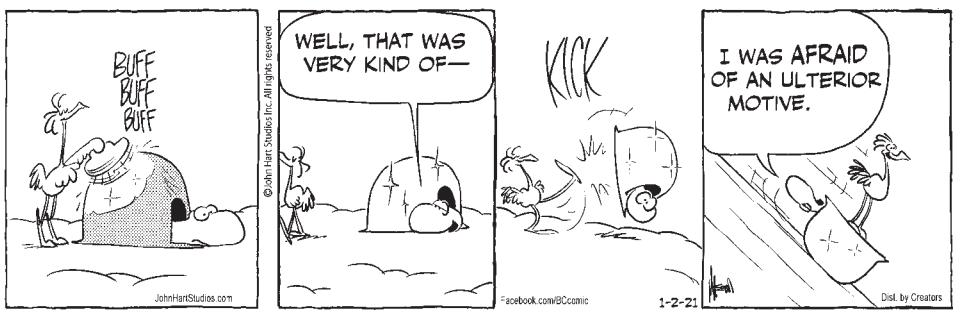



## DENNIS THE MENACE

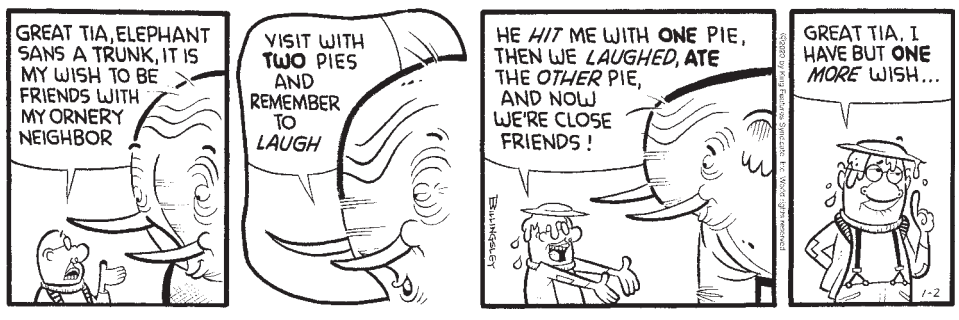
## BABY BLUES


TAKE THE LID OFF THE JAR, WREN.
COOKIES
GOOD GIRL! NOW REACH IN AND GRAB SOME...
HAMMIE, WERE YOU IN THE COOKIE JAR?
NO. BUT FEEL FREE TO CHECK FOR FINGERPRINTS.

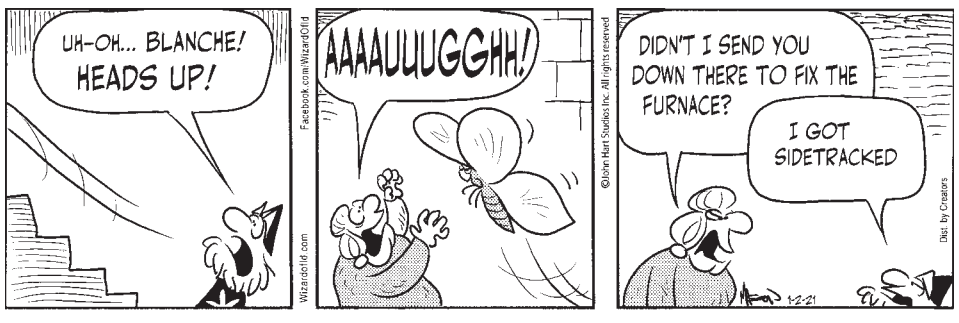
## BC



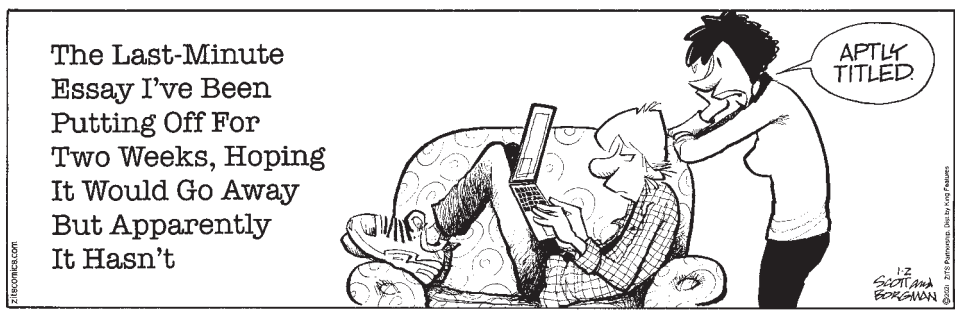

## CURTIS


GREAT TIA, ELEPHANT SANS A TRUNK, IT IS MY WISH TO BE FRIENDS WITH MY ORNERY NEIGHBOR
VISIT WITH TWO PIES AND REMEMBER TO LAUGH
HE HIT ME WITH ONE PIE, THEN WE LAUGHED, ATE THE OTHER PIE, AND NOW WE'RE CLOSE FRIENDS!
GREAT TIA, I HAVE BUT ONE MORE WISH...
1-2

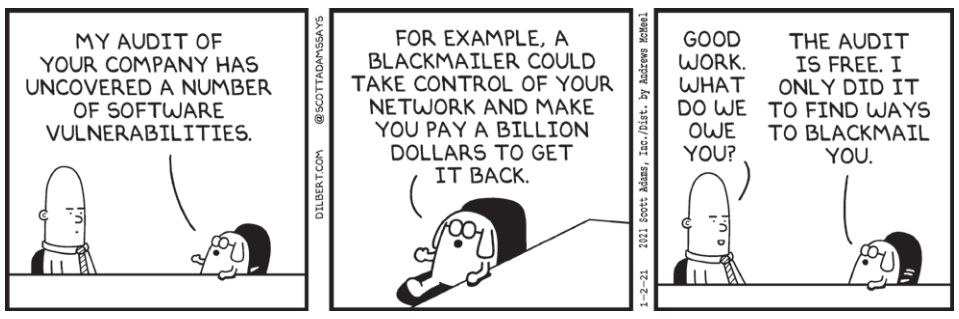
## WIZARD OF ID




## ZITS

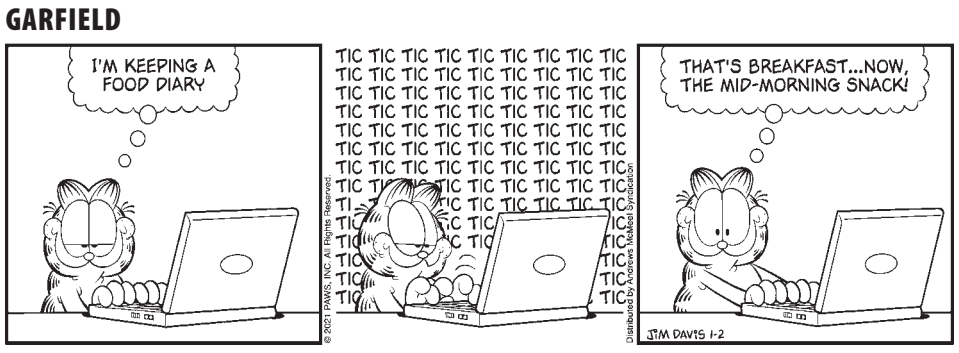

The Last-Minute Essay I've Been Putting Off For Two Weeks, Hoping It Would Go Away But Apparently It Hasn't
APTLY TITLED.
zitscomics.com
SCOTT & BORGMAN

## DILBERT


MY AUDIT OF YOUR COMPANY HAS UNCOVERED A NUMBER OF SOFTWARE VULNERABILITIES.
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
FOR EXAMPLE, A BLACKMAILER COULD TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR NETWORK AND MAKE YOU PAY A BILLION DOLLARS TO GET IT BACK.
1-2-21 2021 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel
GOOD WORK. WHAT DO WE OWE YOU?
THE AUDIT IS FREE. I ONLY DID IT TO FIND WAYS TO BLACKMAIL YOU.

## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

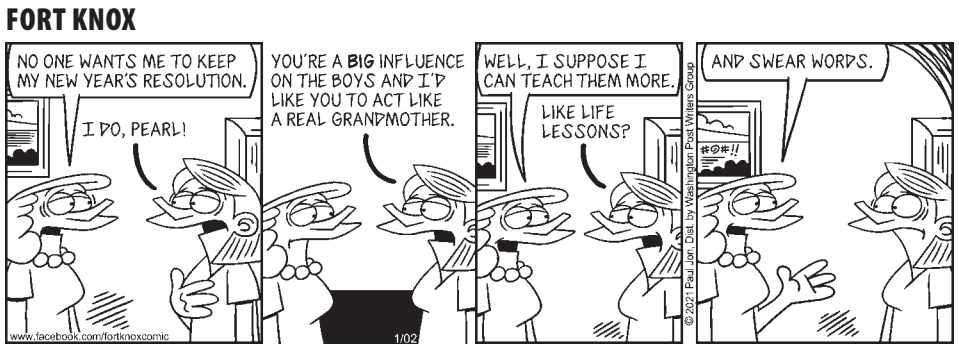
## GARFIELD


I'M KEEPING A FOOD DIARY
TIC TIC TIC TIC TIC TIC TIC TIC TIC
© 2021 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
THAT'S BREAKFAST...NOW, THE MID-MORNING SNACK!
JIM DAVIS 1-2

## MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

1/2
©2021 Grimmy, Inc. Distributed by King Features Inc. /grimmy.com
GRIMM, FOR THE LAST TIME, STOP BEGGING AT THE TABLE
WILL WORK FOR KIBBLES

## FORT KNOX


NO ONE WANTS ME TO KEEP MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION.
I DO, PEARL!
YOU'RE A BIG INFLUENCE ON THE BOYS AND I'D LIKE YOU TO ACT LIKE A REAL GRANDMOTHER.
WELL, I SUPPOSE I CAN TEACH THEM MORE.
LIKE LIFE LESSONS?
#@#!!
AND SWEAR WORDS.
www.facebook.com/fortknoxcomic
1/02
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## MUTTS

## PICKLES

OH, YOU'RE BACK. HOW WAS THE SHOPPING?
I FINISHED SHOPPING AND WAITED IN THE CAR FOR YOU FOR AN HOUR AND FIFTEEN MINUTES!!!
1/2
THEN I FINALLY REMEMBERED THAT YOU DIDN'T COME WITH ME.
HOW LONG AM I GOING TO BE IN THE DOG-HOUSE?
I'LL LET YOU KNOW.

## SALLY FORTH

WE DID IT. OR WE SURVIVED IT. OR WE ENDURED IT. OR WHATEVER...
KEEFE
THE IMPORTANT THING IS 2020 IS FINALLY, COMPLETELY, TOTALLY OVER.
1-2
WEATHER APP SAYS WE MAY GET A BLIZZARD ON MONDAY.
I'M GOING TO RESTOCK EVERY DAY IN OUR ADVENT CALENDAR WITH TINY BOTTLES OF BOOZE.
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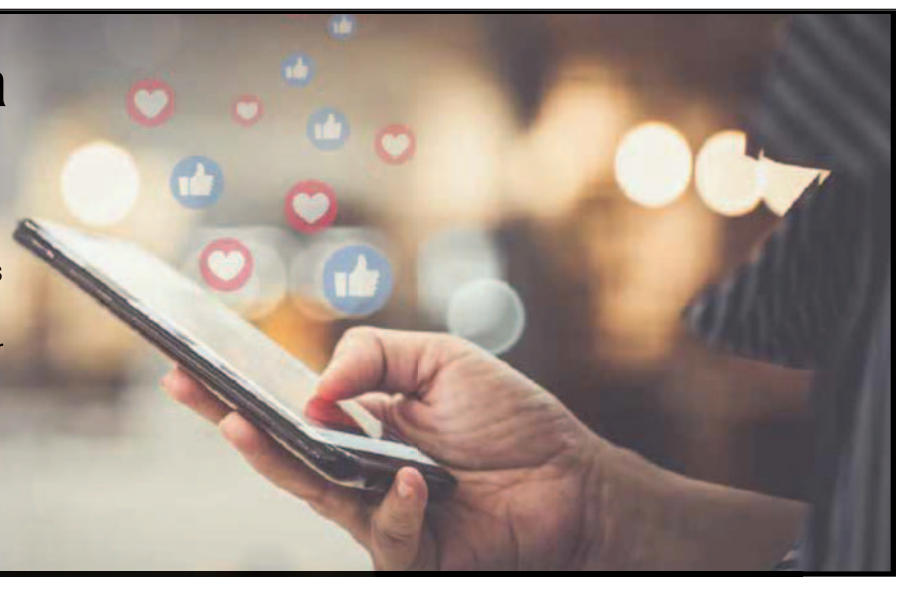
Jane Ammeson
@HPAmmeson

Julie Swidwa
@HPSwidwa

Ben Sanders
@HPBenSanders

Ben Spencer
@HPBenSpencer



## PRIME TIME TV

**SATURDAY EVENING JAN. 2**

| | 7:30 | 8 PM | 8:30 | 9 PM | 9:30 | 10 PM | 10:30 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ABC 7 13 41 57 | Wheel of Fortune | To Tell the Truth CC (DVS) | | Shark Tank CC (DVS) | | The Rookie "The Hunt" CC (DVS) | |
| CBS 2 3 22 | Ent. Tonight | Magnum P.I. "A Bullet Named Fate" | | Blue Bloods "Reckless" CC (DVS) | | 48 Hours (N) CC | |
| NBC 5 8 16 | Ac. Hollywood | Ellen's Game of Games CC | | The Wall "Rebekah and Chris" CC | | Saturday Night Live (N) CC | |
| FOX 17 22 28 32 | To Be Announced | 9-1-1 A girl in a runaway hot air balloon. | | 9-1-1: Lone Star "Awakening" | | Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC | |
| PBS 34 | Lawrence Welk | As Time Goes By | As Time Goes By | Antiques Roadshow "Orlando Hour 3" | | Frankie Drake Mysteries "Anastasia" | |
| CW 25 | Big Bang Theory | Mike & Molly | Mike & Molly | Seinfeld CC | Seinfeld CC | News | Friends CC |
| MNT 50 | Graham Bensinger | Dateline The parents of a murdered teen. | | Dateline A new bride is found murdered. | | Storm of Suspicion "Snow Shoes" | |
| WCIU 26 | Family Guy | Bob's Burgers | Bob's Burgers | Family Guy | Family Guy | Family Guy | Bob's Burgers |
| WHME 46 | :00 Heartland | Heartland Tim gets trapped with a visitor. | | Murdoch Mysteries CC | | Murdoch Mysteries "Sir. Sir? Sir!!!" | |
| WGN 9 | Friends CC | Friends CC | Friends CC | Friends CC | Friends CC | WGN Weekend News at Nine (N) | |
| A&E | :00 Most Daring | Most Daring "Young & Dangerous" CC | | Most Daring Speeding granny. CC | | :01 Most Daring Workplace gunfire. | |
| AMC | Lethal Weapon 2 | 📽 ★★★ Lethal Weapon 3 ('92, Action) Mel Gibson, Danny Glover, Joe Pesci. CC | | | | | Lethal Weapon 4 |
| Animal | Pit Bulls | Pit Bulls & Parolees | | Pit Bulls and Parolees "200th Episode" (N) | | | |
| BET | Tyler Perry's Madea's Big Happy Family | | | | Madea Goes to Jail | | |
| Big Ten | TBA | To Be Announced | | | | Campus | Drive |
| Bravo | 6:10 📽 ★★★ Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 | | | 📽 ★★★ Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 ('10) Daniel Radcliffe. | | | |
| Cartoon | Gumball | Final Sp. | American | American | American | Rick | Rick |
| Cinemax | John Wick 3 | 📽 ★★ Blackhat ('15, Suspense) Chris Hemsworth, Tang Wei, Viola Davis. CC | | | | :15 📽 ★★ The Hunt ('20) CC | |
| CMT | :00 📽 ★★★ Double Jeopardy ('99) | | | | 📽 The Lincoln Lawyer ('11) | | |
| CNBC | Boss | Shark Tank | | Shark Tank | | Shark Tank | |
| CNN | Nineties | The Eighties CC | | Linda Ronstadt: The Sound of My Voice | | | |
| Comedy | Office | Office | Office | Office | Office | Office | Office |
| Discovery | Afraid | Naked and Afraid "Ashes to Ashes" | | Naked and Afraid "In Too Deep" A dive master and a boat captain. CC | | | |
| Disney | Bunk'd | Bunk'd | Bunk'd | Bunk'd | Bunk'd | Bunk'd | Bunk'd |
| DIY | Maine | Maine Cabin Masters | | Maine Cabin Masters | | Maine Cabin Masters | |
| E! | Vegas | Las Vegas CC | | Las Vegas CC | | Las Vegas CC | |
| ESPN | Studio | Capital One Orange Bowl Texas A&M vs North Carolina. (N) (L) | | | | | |
| ESPN2 | Basket | College Basketball Duke at Florida State. | | | | College Basketball | |
| ESPNC | Basket | College Basketball CC | | | | College Basketball | |
| Food | Grocery | Guy's Games | | Guy's Games | | Guy's Games | |
| Fox News | Life | Watters' World (N) | | Justice With Jeanine | | Greg Gutfeld | |
| Fox Sports | Lions | Women's College Basketball | | | | World Poker | |
| Freefrm | 6:10 📽 ★★★ There's Something About Mary ('98) | | | 8:50 📽 ★★★ Coming to America ('88, Comedy) Eddie Murphy, Arsenio Hall. CC | | | |
| FX | Now You See Me 2 | 📽 ★★★ Hidden Figures ('16) Taraji P. Henson. Mathematicians help launch astronaut John Glenn into space. CC | | | | | |
| Golf | PGA Tour Golf Wyndham Championship, Final Round. | | | | | PGA Golf | |
| Hallmark | :00 📽 If I Only Had Christmas ('20) Warren Christie CC | | | 📽 Taking a Shot at Love ('21) Alexa PenaVega, Luke Macfarlane. (P). CC | | | |
| HBO | Something Bo | 📽 ★★ The High Note ('20) Dakota Johnson, Tracee Ellis Ross. (P). CC | | | | His Dark Materials | Hangover II |
| History | :00 History's Greatest Mysteries | | | Titanic: Into the Heart of the Wreck (N) | | | |
| HGTV | Bones | Chateau | | Love It or List It | | Love It or List It | |
| Learning | 90 Day | 90 Day Fiancé | | 90 Day: Other | | 90 Day: Other | |
| Lifetime | Se- | 📽 Kidnapped in Paradise ('21) Claire van der Boom, Melina Vidler. (P). CC | | | | :03 📽 The Neighbor in the Window | |
| MSNBC | Voices | Week-Johnson | | Week-Johnson | | American Voices | |
| MTV | Ridic. | Ridic. | Ridic. | Ridic. | Ridic. | Ridic. | Ridic. |
| NBCSCH | Short List | World Class Championship Boxing | | | | Fight Sports MMA | |
| NFL | 6:00 NFL Football CC | | | NFL Football CC | | | |
| Nick | ★★ Ice Age: The Meltdown | | | Sheldon | Sheldon | Sheldon | Sheldon |
| NGEO | Drugs, | Drugs, Inc.: The Fix | | Drug Lords: Next | | Drug Lords: Next | |
| Oxygen | :00 Dateline: Secrets Uncovered "Deadly Connection" CC | | | Dateline: Secrets Uncovered A detective uses her head and heart. CC | | | |
| Parmt | :00 📽 ★★ Fast & Furious | | | ★★ The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift | | | |
| Showtime | :03 Your Honor | Your Honor "Part Four" CC | | 📽 ★★★ Dark Waters ('19) Mark Ruffalo, Anne Hathaway. (P). CC | | | |
| Starz | 5:59 📽 ★★★ Braveheart ('95) Mel Gibson. CC | | | Power Book II: Ghost "Monster" CC | | :02 📽 ★★ Lara Croft: Tomb Raider | |
| STZENC | :14 📽 ★★ Bruce Almighty ('03, Comedy) Jim Carrey. CC | | | 📽 ★★★ Trading Places ('83, Comedy) Dan Aykroyd, Eddie Murphy. CC | | | |
| SyFy | :00 📽 ★★★ Zombieland ('09) Woody Harrelson. CC | | | 📽 ★★ Hancock ('08, Action) Will Smith, Charlize Theron, Jason Bateman. CC | | | |
| TBS | 6:15 📽 ★★★ Ocean's Thirteen | | :45 📽 ★★ Ocean's 8 ('18) Sandra Bullock. Eight female thieves try to steal a valuable necklace. | | | | |
| TCM | Lawrence of Arabia | 📽 ★★★★ City Lights ('31) Charlie Chaplin, Virginia Cherrill. | | | :45 📽 ★★★★ Vertigo ('58) James Stewart, Kim Novak. CC | | |
| TMC | 6:30 📽 ★★ Armageddon ('98) Bruce Willis, Liv Tyler. CC | | | 📽 ★★ Halloween II ('81) Jamie Lee Curtis. (P). CC | | | Halloween III |
| TNT | Ant Man | 📽 ★★★ Thor: Ragnarok ('17) Chris Hemsworth. | | | | | Clash |
| Travel | Dead | The Dead Files | | The Dead Files (N) | | Kindred Spirits | |
| TV Land | Two Men | Two Men | Two Men | Two Men | Two Men | Two Men | Two Men |
| USA | :20 📽 ★★ Next Friday ('00) Ice Cube, Mike Epps. CC | | | :10 📽 ★ Friday After Next ('02, Comedy) Ice Cube, Mike Epps. CC | | | |
| VH1 | Bad II | 📽 ★★ Get Hard ('15) Will Ferrell, Kevin Hart. CC | | | | | Bad II |
| WGN-A | :00 Blue Bloods | NewsNation (N) (L) CC | | NewsNation (N) (L) CC | | NewsNation (N) (L) CC | |

# Woman is hurt to be kept at arm's length by sister

Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

**DEAR ABBY:** I have spent years trying to have a close relationship with my older sister, but it is clearly not a priority for her. We are very different people, but I was hoping our shared history and family bond would be enough for her to prioritize me and my son. We come from a very small family on both sides and, one day, we will be some of the few remaining family members.

I haven't heard from her in months during the pandemic, which has been hurtful. I'm a working single mother, trying to take care of my son during this dark time, and she hasn't bothered to check on us even once.

She once told me that the only things she cares about are her own son and her dogs. I don't understand how she can have such a loving heart for animals but no concern for her own family. She can be very selfish and has had no close girlfriends during her adulthood.

Growing up, she was jealous of me, but I thought things would be different after I struggled with a divorce and other life stressors. I received no support from her during my divorce. In fact, she seemed to take my ex's side despite his having emotionally abused me for years. Should I expect that we will ever have a closer relationship or just accept that it won't happen? – Hurt In Alabama

**DEAR HURT:** If your description of your sister is accurate, she has drawn a tight circle around herself that she doesn't want breached. You stated that the two of you are very different people, but on some level you haven't allowed yourself to accept what that means. You will be hurt less once you accept that your fantasy of closeness with her will never happen.

For whatever reasons, she isn't capable of giving you what you need. You will find the closeness you crave by developing stronger relationships with your friends. Sadly, for your sister, she won't give herself the gift of these important and rewarding kinds of experiences.

**DEAR ABBY:** I recently separated from my husband of 16 years. He is an alcoholic who refuses to seek help. He can't hold a job or help with household expenses when he does work.

We have been separated for five months, and he feels that I "owe" him another chance. I gave him warning after warning for six years – and there was no change. I continue to tell him repeatedly that I have moved on and I'm tired. Things got so bad I eventually had a mental breakdown and had to seek professional help.

I'm currently in a new relationship, and I have never been so happy. My husband threatens this new man and calls him names. I'm in the process of filing for divorce, but he makes me feel I am obligated to give him the chance to make things right. Am I wrong for wanting to move on? – End Of My Rope In Nevada

**DEAR END:** No, you are not! You have suffered enough, so do not backtrack. You are not obligated to give your alcoholic husband more time than you have already devoted. If you allow him to wear you down, there will only be more of what you have already experienced. (If you are even tempted, call your therapist!)

That he refuses to seek treatment speaks volumes. If you and the new man in your life feel threatened, file a police report.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Couple checks all the relationship boxes except 'good conversation'

Carolyn Hax

*Carolyn Hax is away. The following first appeared Aug. 25, 2006.*

**DEAR CAROLYN:** We're one of those couples where all the "boxes" are checked: physical attraction; good, honest people; and we are supportive, gentle companions to each other and our families.

But laughter is rare and sometimes it feels like neither of us can breathe from all the things we can't think of to say to each other. Help!

I feel it's just as likely that we'll decide this stability is more valuable than whatever's missing, or that we'll end up in a painful, lonely breakup and truly miss how nice, calm and steady we had it. – Stable

**DEAR STABLE:** I think your courage died of boredom. Not to knock nice, calm steadiness. But those words should describe your emotional state, not your conversational one.

How gentle are you going to feel as the hours, days, years of finding nothing to say pile up? Any of us at any point can end up alone. Don't fear it so much that you check the "I guess it's the best I can do" box.

**DEAR CAROLYN:** I recently received a handmade wedding invitation from a friend who is somewhat of an ascetic. I like to give gifts for special occasions, and I think people deserve a nice present for a marriage.

My friend has asked that instead of receiving gifts, she and her fiance would prefer a contribution to one of three charities they selected.

I would not have a problem "matching" the gift value with a contribution, but I really do not like the idea of not giving them a gift for themselves.

Am I being selfish by "needing" to give them a gift? Are they being selfish to themselves (they are not rich) by not having a registry? What is the proper thing to do in this instance? – Stuck on Tradition

**DEAR STUCK ON TRADITION:** I know when I receive a wedding invitation, it takes every ounce of strength I have not to go out and buy a toaster.

But find the strength on this one, please.

For one thing, the landfills will thank you for not burdening them with old, working toasters that no one wants just because they aren't new, conjugal toasters.

For another thing, they don't want you to buy them a toaster.

Since you asked about propriety: Couples who do request charitable contributions need to take care to save this request for when they're expressly asked for their registry or gift preferences. Even compassion comes across as a shakedown when it's annexed to the invitation.

But your proper role as guest is clear regardless: Respect the couple's wishes (to the extent your values allow). If a couple prefers donations to a charity, then guests can give to charity, give nothing or give checks made out to the couple – which they can then donate, spend on themselves or fold into cranes.

I hesitate to add this, because I reject the whole premise, but: If your value system *forces* you to give objects, then choose something they can consume (wine, candles, stationery) – or store in an album (card, photo, poem about toasters).

Off to research what "selfish to themselves" means.

*Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.*

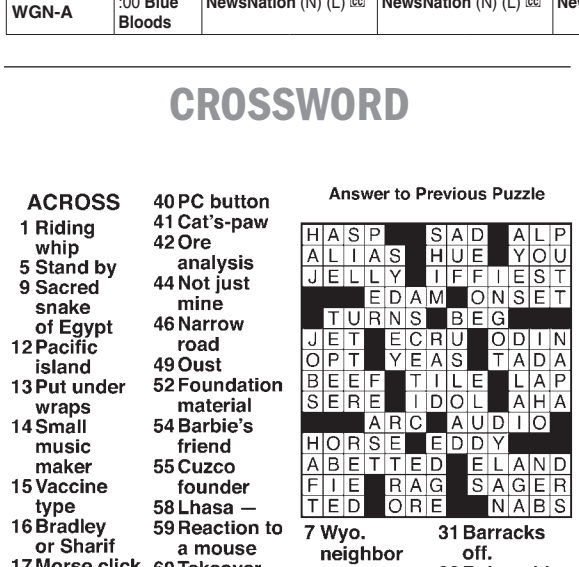
## CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**
1 Riding whip
5 Stand by
9 Sacred snake of Egypt
12 Pacific island
13 Put under wraps
14 Small music maker
15 Vaccine type
16 Bradley or Sharif
17 Morse click
18 Shah's domain
20 North Sea tributary
22 Walk unsteadily
23 Sunrise to sunset
24 Go to the rink
27 Time gone by
31 Turf
34 Plod heavily
35 Fall birthstone
36 Chuck wagon dinner
38 Valuable wood
40 PC button
41 Cat's-paw
42 Ore analysis
44 Not just mine
46 Narrow road
49 Oust
52 Foundation material
54 Barbie's friend
55 Cuzco founder
58 Lhasa —
59 Reaction to a mouse
60 Takeover
61 Lug or carry
62 Melissa McCarthy film
63 Iowa city
64 Nautical position

**DOWN**
1 Hens' home
2 Less common
3 Chicago's airport
4 Vital signs
5 Not so fast!
6 Prepare to fire
7 Wyo. neighbor
8 — firma
9 German car
10 Rind
11 Former mayor Buttigieg
19 Types
21 Injection
23 Impressionist painter
25 Vows venue
26 Foot parts
28 Gibbon
29 Airline to Stockholm
30 "90 Day Fiance" network
31 Barracks off.
32 Baja gold
33 Twosome
37 Coalition
39 Curly cabbage
43 Honda rival
45 Erie Canal city
47 Sherpa's country
48 Come later
49 Makes do
50 Prez backup
51 Black
52 Lids
53 Enameled metal
56 — de plume
57 Stage signal

Answer to Previous Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| H | A | S | P | | | S | A | D | | A | L | P |
| A | L | I | A | S | | H | U | E | | Y | O | U |
| J | E | L | L | Y | | I | F | F | I | E | S | T |
| | | | E | D | A | M | | O | N | S | E | T |
| | | T | U | R | N | S | | B | E | G | | |
| J | E | T | | | E | C | R | U | | O | D | I | N |
| O | P | T | | | Y | E | A | S | | T | A | D | A |
| B | E | E | F | | T | I | L | E | | L | A | P |
| S | E | R | E | | I | D | O | L | | A | H | A |
| | | | A | R | C | | A | U | D | I | O | |
| H | O | R | S | E | | E | D | D | Y | | | |
| A | B | E | T | T | E | D | | E | L | A | N | D |
| F | I | E | | R | A | G | | S | A | G | E | R |
| T | E | D | | O | R | E | | | N | A | B | S |



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## JUMBLE

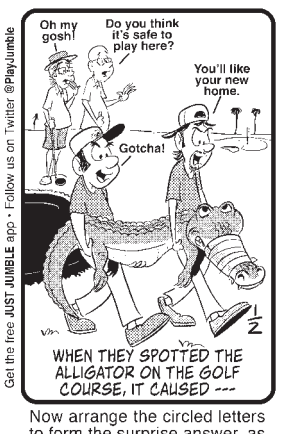
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

OPENR

NYHOP

NUGIES

BARJEB


Oh my gosh!
Do you think it's safe to play here?
You'll like your new home.
Gotcha!
WHEN THEY SPOTTED THE ALLIGATOR ON THE GOLF COURSE, IT CAUSED ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLUFF RHINO DAMAGE STRING
Answer: The sun creates eruptions of magnetic energy with ease because the sun — HAS A "FLARE" FOR IT

## KAKURO

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 15 | 8 | 16 | 25 | 16 | 6 | | 24 | 6 |
| 39 | | | | | | | 6 | | |
| 21 | | | | | | | 4 / 11 | | |
| | 17 | 6 / 37 | | | | 6 / 29 | | | |
| 16 | | | 22 / 21 | | | | | | 3 |
| 30 | | | | | 11 / 13 | | | | |
| | 32 / 24 | | | | | | 4 / 23 | | |
| 24 | | | | 20 / 10 | | | | 9 | 17 |
| 16 | | | 37 | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | 24 | | | | | | |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 1/02

**How to play:** Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 21 | 27 | 7 | 12 | 28 | | 28 | 9 | 17 |
| 21 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 23 | 6 | 8 | 9 |
| 30 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 13 / 24 | 4 | 1 | 8 |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | 28 / 25 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 22 | |
| 8 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 35 / 29 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 1 |
| 30 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 35 / 26 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 2 |
| 34 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 15 / 5 | 9 | 6 | 4 |
| | 14 / 3 | | 10 / 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 14 / 5 | 9 | 5 |
| 13 | 9 | 1 | 3 | | 15 / 5 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 5 | 5 | 2 | 1 | | 34 / 9 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 7 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 1/01

## BRIDGE

Elizabeth Gaskell, in her first novel, "Mary Barton," wrote, "There is always a pleasure in unraveling a mystery, in catching at the gossamer clue which will guide to certainty."

Bridge players can relate to that. First today, though, what should South do after East opens four spades?

Suppose that South ends in five hearts. West leads a spade. East takes the trick and shifts to the club eight. What clue should South spot?

When East opens four spades, it could be best for South to pass. However, with two five-card suits, it would be cautious not to enter the auction – but how?

Usually, South would make a Michaels Cue-Bid to show at least 5-5 in hearts and a minor. But here that would drive the auction to the six-level. So South intervenes with four no-trump, which shows at least 5-5 in two of the three unbid suits (not just the minors).

North will wonder about a slam, but he knows that his partner might have bid under pressure, and suits will tend to break badly. He bids five diamonds, then passes when South rebids five hearts to show the rounded suits. (Yes, North might advance with five hearts, willing to get to six diamonds if partner has the minors.)

In the play, the club finesse is probably losing, so declarer must draw trumps safely. There is a natural reaction to play the preemptor for shortness, but his club shift is surely a singleton; and he wouldn't do that with only one trump. So, South should win trick two with his club ace, play a heart to the king and return a trump, conceding one spade and one club when the heart queen pops up.

North 01-02-21
♠ 10
♥ K 8 5 3
♦ A K 9 7 6 3
♣ Q 2

West
♠ J 8 7
♥ Q 10
♦ Q J 8
♣ K 9 7 6 4

East
♠ A K Q 6 5 4 3 2
♥ 6 2
♦ 4 2
♣ 8

South
♠ 9
♥ A J 9 7 4
♦ 10 5
♣ A J 10 5 3

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: Neither

| South | West | North | East |
|---|---|---|---|
| ?? | | | 4♠ |

Opening lead: ♠ 7

## SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 5 | 4 | | 9 | | 7 |
| | | 6 | 7 | 9 | | | | 2 |
| | | | | 6 | | | | 4 |
| 4 | | | | 5 | | 7 | | |
| | | | 2 | 8 | 3 | | | |
| | | 8 | | 7 | | | | 6 |
| 1 | | | | 3 | | | | |
| 9 | | | | 1 | 5 | 4 | | |
| 8 | | 7 | | 2 | 4 | | | |

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**How to play:** Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| 4 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 2 |
| 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 4 |
| 1 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 6 |
| 5 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 9 |
| 7 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 7 |
| 8 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 |
| 6 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |

# hp HOME & GARDEN

# Pandemic feeds demand for chickens

By TERENCE CHEA
Associated Press

ROSS, Calif. — The coronavirus pandemic is coming home to roost in America's backyards.

Forced to hunker down at home, more people are setting up coops and raising their own chickens, which provide an earthy hobby, animal companionship and a steady supply of fresh eggs.

Amateur chicken-keeping has been growing in popularity in recent years as people seek environmental sustainability in the food they eat. The pandemic is accelerating those trends, some breeders and poultry groups say, prompting more people to make the leap into poultry parenthood.

Businesses that sell chicks, coops and other supplies say they have seen a surge in demand since the pandemic took hold in March and health officials ordered residents to stay home.

Allison and Ron Abta of Northern California's Marin County had, for years, talked about setting up a backyard coop. They took the plunge in August.

The couple's three kids were thrilled when their parents finally agreed to buy chicks.

"These chickens are like my favorite thing, honestly," said 12-year-old Violet, holding a dark feathered hen in her woodsy backyard. "They actually have personalities once you get to know them."

The baby birds lived inside the family's home for six weeks before moving into the chicken run in the yard. A wire-mesh enclosure now houses the five heritage hens – each a different breed – and protects them from bobcats, foxes and other predators.

Mark Podgwaite, a Vermont chicken breeder who heads the American Poultry Association, said he and other breeders have noticed an uptick in demand for chicks since the pandemic began. His organization, which represents breeders and poultry-show exhibitors, has seen a jump in new members.

"Without question, the resurgence in raising backyard poultry has been unbelievable over the past year," said Podgwaite, who keeps a flock of roughly 100 birds. "It just exploded. Whether folks wanted birds just for eggs or eggs and meat, it seemed to really, really take off."

The Abta family bought the chicks from Mill Valley Chickens, which sells chickens, feed and supplies and builds coops and runs. Owner Leslie Citroen also offers classes for first-time chicken keepers. She estimates her sales have grown 400 percent this year.

"Once COVID hit, my phone just started ringing off the hook and it just has not slowed down," Citroen said. "I don't think it's going to slow down. I think this new interest and passion in chickens is permanent."

Citroen said most of her customers this year are first-time chicken keepers. They range from parents looking for something to keep homebound children busy to "preppers" who want their own protein supply in case the world falls apart.

"Demand is just through the roof right now," Citroen said. "I've sold all my baby chicks. I've sold all my juveniles. And I'm starting to sell some of my family flock."

One of her newest customers is Ben Duddleston, who lives in nearby San Anselmo. He stopped by her home to buy three hens.

The self-described "first-time chicken dad" wanted to surprise his kids, ages 5 and 10, on Christmas.

"I think it's totally pandemic related," Duddleston said. "I don't think that I'd be doing this in normal times."

Terence Chea / AP photos

**ABOVE:** A heritage hen sits on a wire enclosure at Mill Valley Chickens in Mill Valley, Calif. **AT LEFT:** Members of the Abta family, from left, Allison, Violet, Eli and Ariella hold hens in front of their backyard chicken run in Ross, Calif. **BELOW:** Ben Duddleston discusses buying chickens and supplies from Leslie Citroen, owner of Mill Valley Chickens in Mill Valley, Calif.

## IN BRIEF

### Ideas for your real tree after Christmas

If you're interested in repurposing your Christmas tree, here are some suggestions from the Arbor Day Foundation that go beyond putting your real tree in the garbage:

■ **Firewood:** Because they are sap-heavy trees, evergreens tend to burn hot and fast, making them ideal for bonfires. Trees should be dried out for a few months before burning.

■ **Mulch:** Whether it's with woodchips or needles, mulch is a great way to keep your yard trees healthy and moist during the cold season. Pine needles contain nutrients that enhance the PH of soil.

■ **Ashes:** Ashes from burned Christmas trees contain potassium and lime, which, when spread in the garden, help plants thrive.

■ **Natural insulation:** Cutting off the branches and laying them in a garden bed will protect plants from winter freezes and spring thaws.

■ **Fresheners:** Green pine needles can be stored in paper bags or sachets to use as fresheners around the house.

### Glidden names Aqua Fiesta its Accent Color of the Year

Every year, paint retailers pinpoint an "it" color of the new year, but not Glidden. The paint retailer admits it went "rogue" last fall by not naming a Color of the Year this year or last year.

Instead, it's taking a different approaching to potentially help DIY-ers.

Glidden has naming Aqua Fiesta, a turquoise hue, its Accent Color of the Year.

Aqua Fiesta is a "cheerful and fresh aquamarine color that looks great in a bedroom, bath, living room or kitchen," the retailer said.

Last year, Glidden didn't name a Color of the Year and it didn't again for 2021, admitting it went "rogue."

Glidden said it picked an accent color to help DIY-ers or those who may be procrastinating with home design projects.

For a bedroom, living room or kitchen, Glidden suggests pairing Aqua Fiesta with Whirlwind, a light gray it unveiled last year.

If you use Aqua Fiesta in a bedroom, Glidden suggests adding cream-colored bedding and white, fluffy pillows to complete the look.

### Degeneres launches new line of bath vanities, cabinets

Ellen Degeneres already has a successful line of furniture and home decor – and, of course, a talk show – but now she's expanding into the bathroom.

In December, the comedian announced the launch of ED Ellen Degeneres Bath, a line of bath vanities, cabinets and mirrors. The new line, described as "transitional elegance," includes several different styles, all of which can be configured in different ways, that feature dovetail drawers and other details.

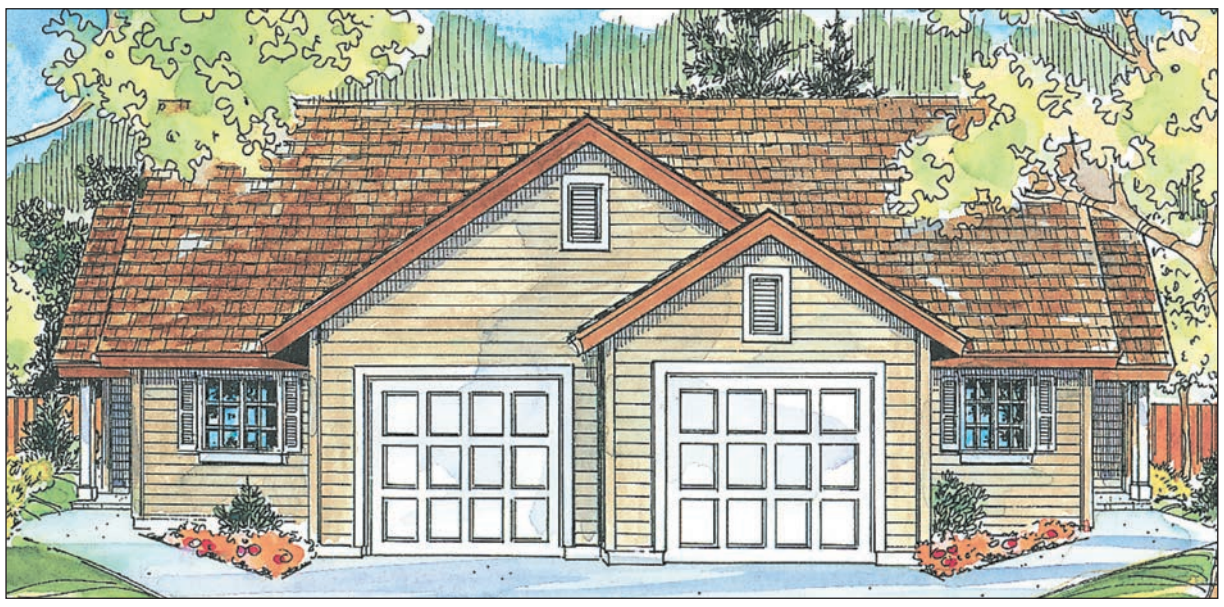
"There are a lot of premium details I love," Degeneres said in a video on the line's website.

She said her line will eventually expand to include rugs, lighting and flooring.

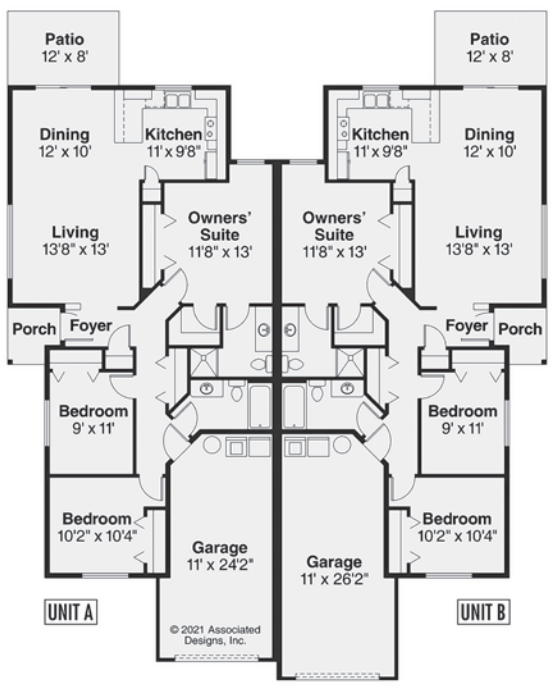
For more information about the line, visit bath.edbyellen.com.

*– The Detroit News*

**HOUSE OF THE WEEK**



## The Wynant




**House name:** Wynant 60-024

**Duplex unit A living area:** 1,202 square feet

**Duplex unit B living area:** 1,202 square feet

**Unit A garage:** 290 square feet

**Unit B garage:** 315 square feet

**Total dimensions:** 58-by-64-feet

Because the Wynant looks more like a cottage than a duplex, you might say it's two cottages in one. Both units have side entrances, creating a sense of privacy for each of the families. Other than the right-hand garage, which extends 2 feet closer to the street, the floor plans are mirror images.

A simple wooden post supports the roof of a recessed front porch that leads into a small foyer. Inside, the coat closet is on one side, while a wide opening on the other side takes you into the living room. A hallway that links with bedrooms and bathrooms also leads off the foyer.

Living room, dining room and kitchen flow together in one large, open gathering space. Light washes into the living room through a wide side window. More spills in through rear windows in the dining room and kitchen. The dining room's sliding glass doors provide access to a rear patio, ideal for outdoor meals.

The kitchen is designed for efficiency, with its sink, stove and refrigerator all located in a tight, step-saving triangle. A small pantry adds to the available storage space, and counters wrap around three sides. Family members or friends can eat, or chat with the kitchen workers, while seated along the eating bar.

An extra-long closet fills one wall of the owners' suite, and a walk-in closet adds more storage space. The private bathroom has a shower.

Secondary bedrooms are down a hallway lined with storage space. They are nearby, yet somewhat isolated from the owners' suite. Both bedrooms have a good-sized window and share the main bathroom.

Direct access to the garage is at the end of the bedroom hallway in each of the units.

For more info, or to view other designs, visit www.associateddesigns.com or call 800-634-0123.

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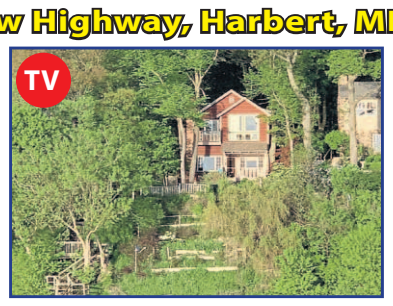
13768 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, MI | 269-469-1256

405 Woodland Dr. $165,000
Buchanan
·6 BR, 2 BA, 1,600 SF
·Home Boasts Large Bedrooms and an Open Floor Plan
·Enjoy Making your Holiday Meals in this Newly Renovated Kitchen
·New Sliding Doors that Look Out to the Wooded Backyard
·Walk Out Basement Gives you Access to the Peaceful, Backyard
CressyEverett.com/20050651
Allison Faris: 269-923-2615

103 Sunset Street $97,000
Dowagiac
·2 BR, 1 BA, 1,152 SF
·Nice Ranch Home on the Outskirts of Town
·Main Floor Laundry and Attached One Car Garage
·Home Features a Large Kitchen with Eating Area
·Has a Super-Sized Living Room
CressyEverett.com/20051024
Dave Springsteen: 269-462-2500



4638 Lake Road $950,000
Stevensville
·5 BR, 2 BA, 1,874 SF
·Welcome to Lake Michigan at Rosemary Beach
·Access to Waters Edge is Right Next Door
·House Sits on a Beautiful Hill Tucked in Tall Trees for Privacy
·Hear the Waves and Watch the Sunset from 3 Decks/Patios
CressyEverett.com/20013864
Shawn Ashley: 269-845-2317

460 Lee Avenue $188,000
Bridgman - 2 Duplex's
·460/462 - Unit 1&2: 2 BR, 1 BA 720 SF Occupied
·450/452 - Unit 3&4: 2 BR, 1 BA 690 SF Occupied
·Great Investment Opportunity
·Each Unit has it's Own Sliding Glass Door to Private Patio
·Located on a Quiet Street One Block from Schools
CressyEverett.com/20024420
Dave Springsteen: 269-462-2500

26841 Dutch Settlement Rd $425,000
Dowagiac
·A Great Investment Property
·Presently Used as a Daily/Weekly Rental for Golf Outings
·Adjacent to the Spruce Ridge Golf Course
·Large 20x58 All Seasons Room
·Overlooking the 24x60 Indoor heated Pool
CressyEverett.com/20022020
Dave Springsteen: 269-462-2500

1348 Zilke Road $139,900
Niles
·3 BR, 2 BA 1,410 SF
·Manufactured Home in Howard Township on a 2 Acre Parcel
·Quiet, Private, Country Feel, Yet Close to Everything
·Master Bathroom has a Walk in Tub
·Sliding Doors Going Out to the Rear Covered Deck
CressyEverett.com/20034597
Mike Barber: 269-449-6939

1595 Prairie Drive $369,900
St. Joseph
·5 BR, 3.5 BA, 2,114 SF
·This Beautiful Home in the Desirable Concord Ridge Neighborhood
·An Open Floor Plan that makes Entertaining Easy via the Sliding Doors
·Easily Access the Hot Tub and Patio Just off the Main Floor
·A Large Walk-In Pantry is a Great Addition to the Open Concept Kitchen
CressyEverett.com/20049120
Kent Schulte: 618-553-7038

22370 Maple Street $190,000
Cassopolis
·3 BR, 2.5 BA, 1,910 SF
·Diamond Lake Boat Slip Included
·A Separate Family and Living Room
·Enjoy the 20x40 Heated Inground Pool During the Summer
·A Large Deck that Overlooks the Pool
CressyEverett.com/20011522
Dave Springsteen: 269-462-2500

3463 Michael Lane $609,900
St. Joseph
·5 BR, 4.5 BA 3,129 SF
·Don't miss the Opportunity to Make this River Oasis your New Home
·109 feet of St Joe River Frontage on 1.75 Acres
·Beautiful Large Windows and Abundant Natural Light
·Multiple Slider Doors Allow Easy Access to Multi-Level Decking
CressyEverett.com/20024483
Ben Stephen: 269-208-9076

715 Columbia Ave. $314,900
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·6326+/- SQ FT of Combined Commercial & Residential Space
·Colonial Style, Brick Building
·Commercial Space is the Main Level with Residential Space Upstairs
·Upstairs has Vaulted Ceiling, Living Room, Dining Area & Enclosed Sun Room
CressyEverett.com/20037857
Tamra Curtis: 325-209-3681

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signing.
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269-208-1364

**Coloma, MI**
Small two bedroom
650 per month
plus security
call for details- Jim
269-208-1364

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

## LEGALS

### LEGALS

**Berrien County Conservation District Virtual Annual Meeting and Election**

**Thursday, February 18th, 7 p.m.**

Berrien Conservation District is holding an election for members to the board of directors. Candidates are Kaitlyn Lemon, Alan Martin, and Bette Pierman. Information on the candidates is located on our website www.berriencd.org. Terms are for four years and two positions need to be filled. Voting this year will be absentee ballot only. Ballots may be requested by email to the manager Nancy.Carpenter@macd.org, or by phone to the office at 269-471-9111 extension 3. A ballot and voter registration card will be mailed to you. You must be over 18 and a legal resident of Berrien County to vote. Ballots and registration cards must be returned by 4:30 pm. Thursday, February 18th by mail, or in the drop box at the office at 3334 Edgewood Road, Berrien Springs, MI. Election results will be announced during the virtual annual meeting. To access the annual meeting and election results please join us on-line with Google Meet Meet.google.com/iwf-nivb-yra or by phone 1-267-388-1601 using pin 568309973. Special guest speaker, Matt Meersman, President of the Friends of the St. Joseph River and Director of the St. Joseph River Basin Commission will present on the changes to the St. Joseph River throughout the years.

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## FINANCIAL

## GARAGE /ESTATE SALES

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### ANNOUNCEMENT

**Mccoy** Brother's Jewelers will resume business when the vaccine arrives and is administered to the public at large. Hang in there, folks.
Mccoy Brother's will reopen at that time, for the final run, of about one year.

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Insulation
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cheap!!
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or 3pillarsmusic@
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## FARM

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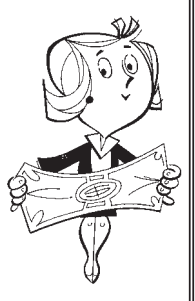

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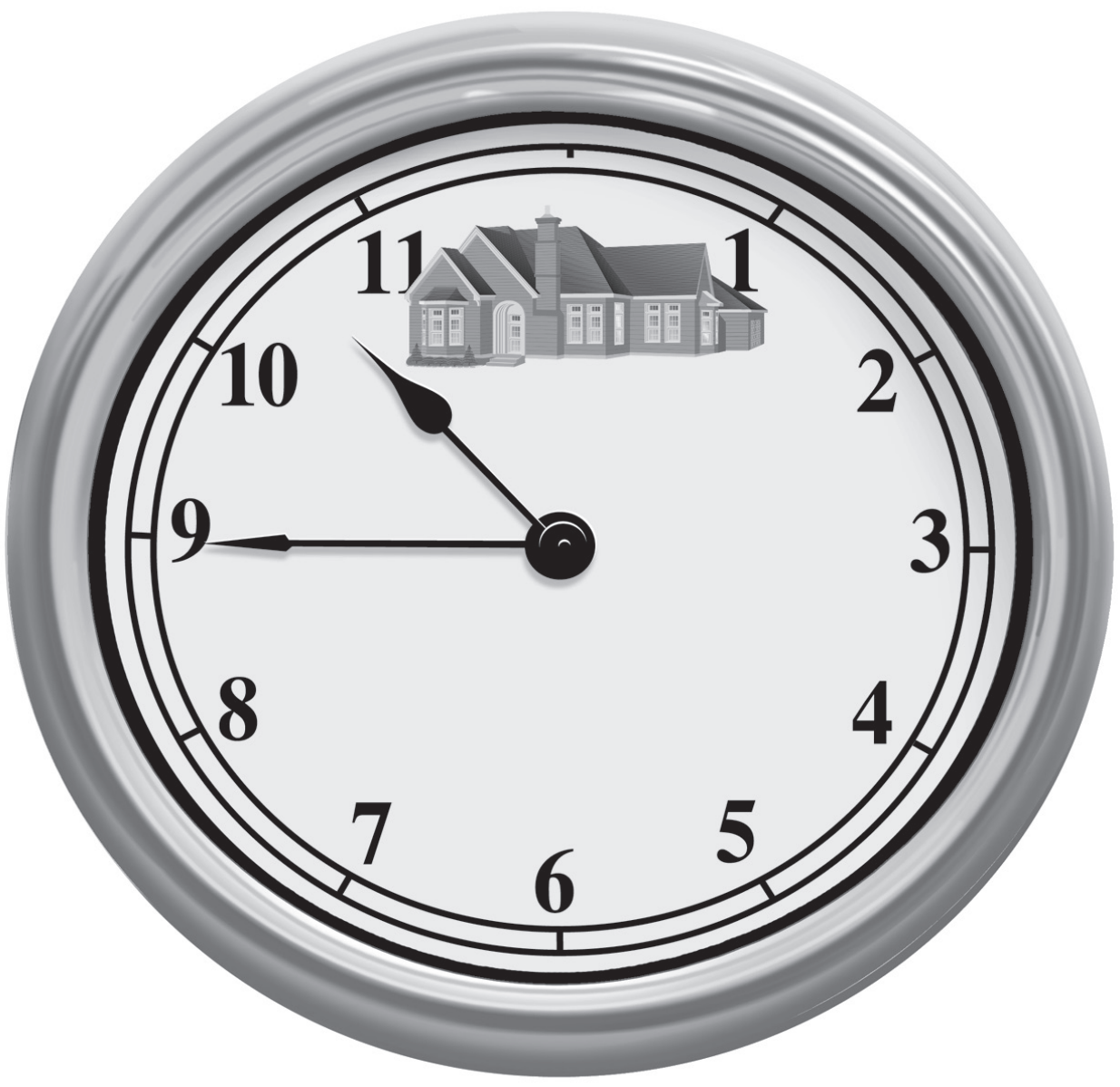


**ADVERTISE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS**

## HOROSCOPE

**By EUGENIA LAST**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 2**

Consider what you have already achieved and what you want to pursue. Change may entice you, but review your motives before you plunge into something risky or costly. Frustration will take over if you make a mistake. Play it safe, and strive to ease stress. Do not create challenges that will leave you at odds down the road. Maintain balance and integrity.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Handle financial matters reasonably, and consider joint ventures that bring equal benefits to all involved. Choose physical and emotional well-being instead of indulgent behavior.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** A positive attitude will encourage others to back your interests. Let your actions lead the way, and rewards follow. A partnership will promote more remarkable success. Romance is favored.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** Preparation will make the difference between success and failure. Last-minute changes will ensure that you have everything in place before you step into the limelight. Don't take risks with your health.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** Channel your energy into what you can accomplish, and you'll make progress. A lifestyle change is overdue, and the excitement of building a strong foundation for future endeavors looks promising.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Keep a low profile. A problem with a regulation or authority figure will arise if you haven't paid attention to the rules. Nurture domestic relationships.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** You may not move forward traditionally, but the results will be better than anticipated. Romance and poor judgment are prevalent. Proceed with caution.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** Follow the dots and figure out where your plans lead before you start something you may not be able to finish. Put your energy into something concrete.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** Refrain from making a move or change, or agreeing to something if you aren't sure it's what you want. Pay attention to your physical and emotional well-being, and nurture a meaningful relationship.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Invite people who make you think to comment on your thoughts and plans. A collective point of view will motivate you to take the helm and move forward.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** Discuss your ideas and note the suggestions you receive. Avoiding discord will make whatever transition you make more manageable. Romance is encouraged.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** How you manage your money, friendships and social activity will determine what sort of year lies ahead. Keep an open mind when dealing with friends and family.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** Consider the information you gather and the source from which you draw your knowledge before you let it determine how you react. Romance is featured, but caution is encouraged.

## HOROSCOPE

**By EUGENIA LAST**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 3**

Protect what you have, and enjoy peace of mind. Don't set up scenarios that will leave you in vulnerable or uncertain positions. Stay focused on your long-term goal and avoid disruptions caused by ego or poor judgment. Make adjustments to counter anyone meddling in your affairs.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Someone will reveal a position of opposition that can influence your home or lifestyle. Use charm and the power of persuasion to ensure you avoid a costly mess.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** Take a break, do something that challenges you physically and blow off steam. You'll gain perspective regarding what you are trying to achieve. Time is on your side.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** An emotional plea will help you gain interest in something you want to pursue. The information shared will open your eyes to unique options. Don't fold under pressure.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** Diplomacy and enthusiasm are favored. A personal realization may not turn out to be accurate. Before you make a move or respond, verify the information you receive.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Research will help you put together a routine that offers better health, nutrition and emotional stability. Choose to be practical regarding finances and joint ventures. Personal change is favored.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** Your actions will send a message that will either bring you closer to someone or drive you apart. Assess the way you feel before you make promises you may not be able to keep.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** Get your feelings out in the open, and you will find innovative ways to improve your relationships. A thoughtful gesture will help you overcome a divisive. Check motives before making a move.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** Verify information before sharing. Take better care of your health, wealth and emotional well-being. Personal and physical improvements are encouraged. Romance is on the rise.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Use your knowledge, experience and intuition to guide you. A change at home or to a meaningful relationship will cause an emotional uproar if handled poorly. Make honesty a priority.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** Ask questions, discuss possibilities and look for compromises that will keep the peace. Offer hope as well as hands-on help to overcome any diversity you face. Fitness will relieve stress.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** Follow your heart and don't let anyone talk you into spending money on something you don't need. A friend or relative will make a suggestion that leads to an exciting partnership.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** If you give someone the wrong impression, it will leave you in a vulnerable position. Make a change at home. Pay more attention to physical fitness, romance and loyalty.

# CROSSWORD

Crossword Answers D4

## Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

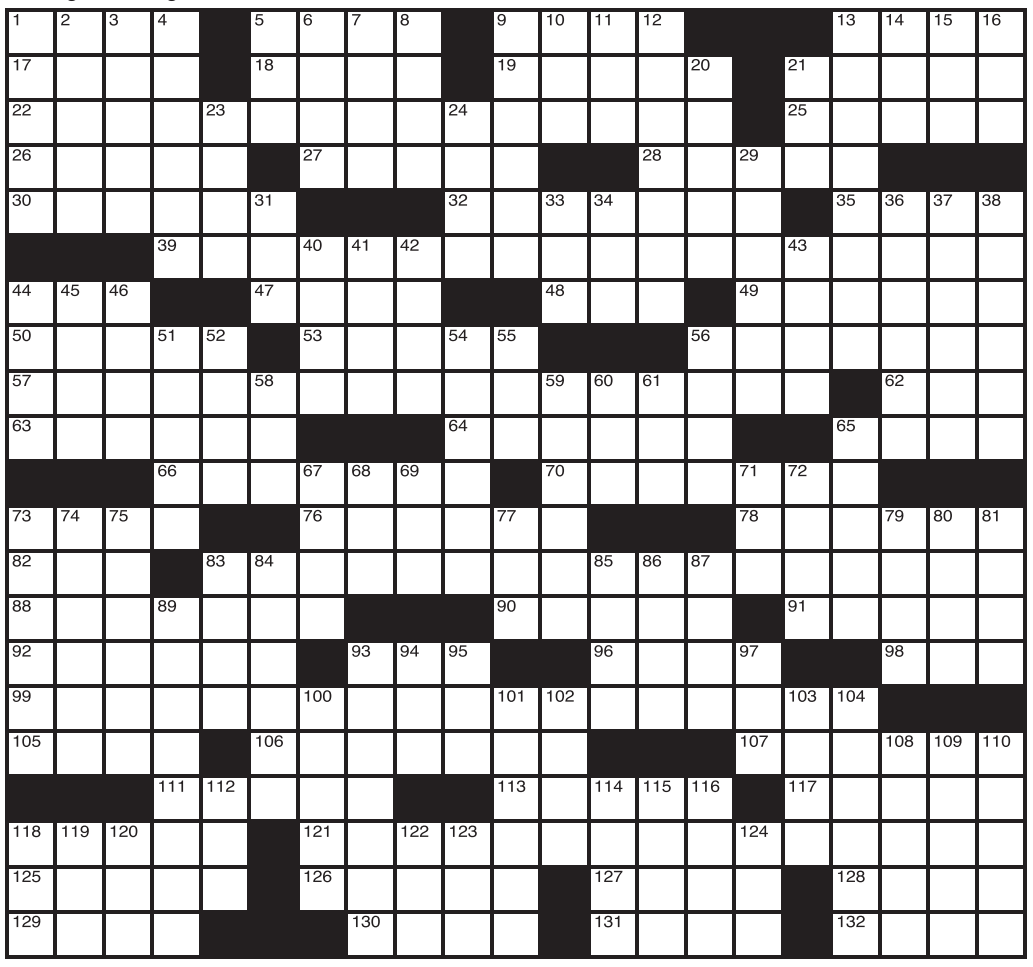
**"CAREER COUNSELING" By TRENT H. EVANS**

**ACROSS**

1 Movers, but hopefully not shakers
5 Hawkeye's title workplace
9 Global warming word
13 Stumbling block
17 "Are you hurt?" response
18 Soprano showpiece
19 Far from clueless
21 It's not a bear
22 Advice to an aspiring preacher?
25 Gives the boot
26 Give a lift
27 Finger-wagging word
28 It's nothing to Caesar
30 Star sometimes eclipsing Venus?
32 Esteem to the extreme
35 Support for wind energy?
39 Advice to an aspiring organizer?
44 NFL's Falcons
47 Vatican farewell
48 Messy place
49 Fictitious
50 Dalai Lama's former home
53 China's Zhou __
56 "Watch me do this!"
57 Advice to an aspiring journalist?
62 Head of MI6?
63 2020, for many
64 "I know! I know!"
65 Philly Ivy
66 Middle schooler, probably
70 Prairie howlers
73 Collars, as a perp
76 Zoom lens?
78 Seyfried of "Big Love"
82 "We __ Farmer's, bum ba dum bum bum bum bum"
83 Advice to an aspiring ballet dancer?
88 Salts, say
90 Govt. security
91 Unexpected mug shot feature
92 Bring into harmony
93 Exec concerned with hacking
96 "__ girl!"
98 First name in supervillains
99 Advice to an aspiring history professor?
105 Simple meteorological tool
106 Treater's adamant words
107 Rap caps, perhaps
111 Breaks down
113 Cosmic comeuppance
117 Devoid of any pleasure
118 Aim high
121 Advice to an aspiring stationer?
125 Speed skater Ohno
126 Some fitness ctrs.
127 Hawaiian seafood salad
128 Tolkien trilogy, initially
129 Radio piece
130 Kindle display
131 Ruth's sultanate?
132 Greens in regulation, e.g.

**DOWN**

1 Tools with jaws
2 Quite big enough
3 Musical deficiency
4 Got by on one's reputation alone, perhaps
5 Red Warhol subject?
6 Canine chorus
7 Evil sci-fi order
8 LOL, verbalized
9 Used what was available
10 Sheep related to you?
11 Head of MI6?
12 Holy threesome
13 The one
14 "Old Town Road" rapper Lil __ X
15 PC shortcut key
16 Teslas don't need it
20 "My Fair Lady" lady
21 Japanese garden fish
23 Lotto cousin
24 Gulf States bigwig
29 Ram's protection
31 Mandela's org.
33 Painful sequence
34 Illuminated
36 For a bit
37 Vietnam War hot spot
38 Mogul
40 Cake level
41 Drink mix made famous by NASA
42 Tiger's target
43 Harp relative
44 Big name in footwear
45 Son of Odin
46 Touch down
51 Dance moves
52 Nowhere close
54 Right this minute
55 Olympic skating medalist Midori
56 Kermit's greeting
58 Praise for a torero
59 "You can't be serious"
60 Seek the affections of
61 Rob __
65 One of a biblical 150
67 Jefferson bills
68 "OMG, a mouse!"
69 Ease up
71 Eastern "way"
72 Birds that boom and grunt
73 Channel that provided coverage of the New Horizons Pluto flyby
74 Respectful singer?
75 Taken down
77 Back on the boat
79 Scientist __ deGrasse Tyson
80 View from a hill
81 Top of a hill
83 Like the Texas flag's star
84 Baby's outfit
85 Crowd eruption
86 Rock ending?
87 Mountain legend
89 "You betcha!"
93 Take over or take in
94 Hypotheticals
95 Yes, to Yves
97 "Your point is?"
100 Chilly
101 Finger-wagging sound
102 Four Corners state
103 Skye of "Say Anything..."
104 Fishes, in a way
108 On, as Sherlock's game
109 Sanjay of CNN
110 Hägar's dog
112 Film director's challenge
114 Gym set
115 "May I have some tuna, please?"
116 "My Way" lyricist
118 Wander (about)
119 Big name in nail polish
120 Slithery squeezer
122 Bio or chem
123 Frenemy of Lando
124 Lab coat checker?



1/3/21 xwordeditor@aol.com ©2021 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

RESERVE THIS SPACE TODAY!

## Answer To Today's Puzzle

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| V | A | N | S | | M | A | S | H | | M | E | L | T | | | | S | N | A | G |
| I | M | O | K | | A | R | I | A | | A | W | A | R | E | | K | O | A | L | A |
| S | P | E | A | K | O | F | T | H | E | D | E | V | I | L | | O | U | S | T | S |
| E | L | A | T | E | | S | H | A | M | E | | | | N | I | H | I | L | | |
| S | E | R | E | N | A | | | | I | D | O | L | I | Z | E | | M | A | S | T |
| | | | D | O | N | T | T | H | R | O | W | I | T | A | L | L | A | W | A | Y |
| A | T | L | | | C | I | A | O | | | S | T | Y | | M | Y | T | H | I | C |
| L | H | A | S | A | | E | N | L | A | I | | | | H | E | R | E | I | G | O |
| D | O | N | T | F | O | R | G | E | T | T | O | W | R | I | T | E | | L | O | O |
| O | R | D | E | A | L | | | | O | O | H | O | O | H | | | P | E | N | N |
| | | | P | R | E | T | E | E | N | | C | O | Y | O | T | E | S | | | |
| N | A | B | S | | | W | E | B | C | A | M | | | | A | M | A | N | D | A |
| A | R | E | | L | O | O | K | B | E | F | O | R | E | Y | O | U | L | E | A | P |
| S | E | A | S | O | N | S | | | | T | N | O | T | E | | S | M | I | L | E |
| A | T | T | U | N | E | | C | I | O | | | A | T | T | A | | | L | E | X |
| T | H | E | R | E | S | N | O | F | U | T | U | R | E | I | N | I | T | | | |
| V | A | N | E | | I | I | N | S | I | S | T | | | | D | O | R | A | G | S |
| | | | W | E | E | P | S | | | K | A | R | M | A | | N | O | F | U | N |
| G | O | B | I | G | | P | U | S | H | T | H | E | E | N | V | E | L | O | P | E |
| A | P | O | L | O | | Y | M | C | A | S | | P | O | K | E | | L | O | T | R |
| D | I | A | L | | | | E | I | N | K | | S | W | A | T | | S | T | A | T |

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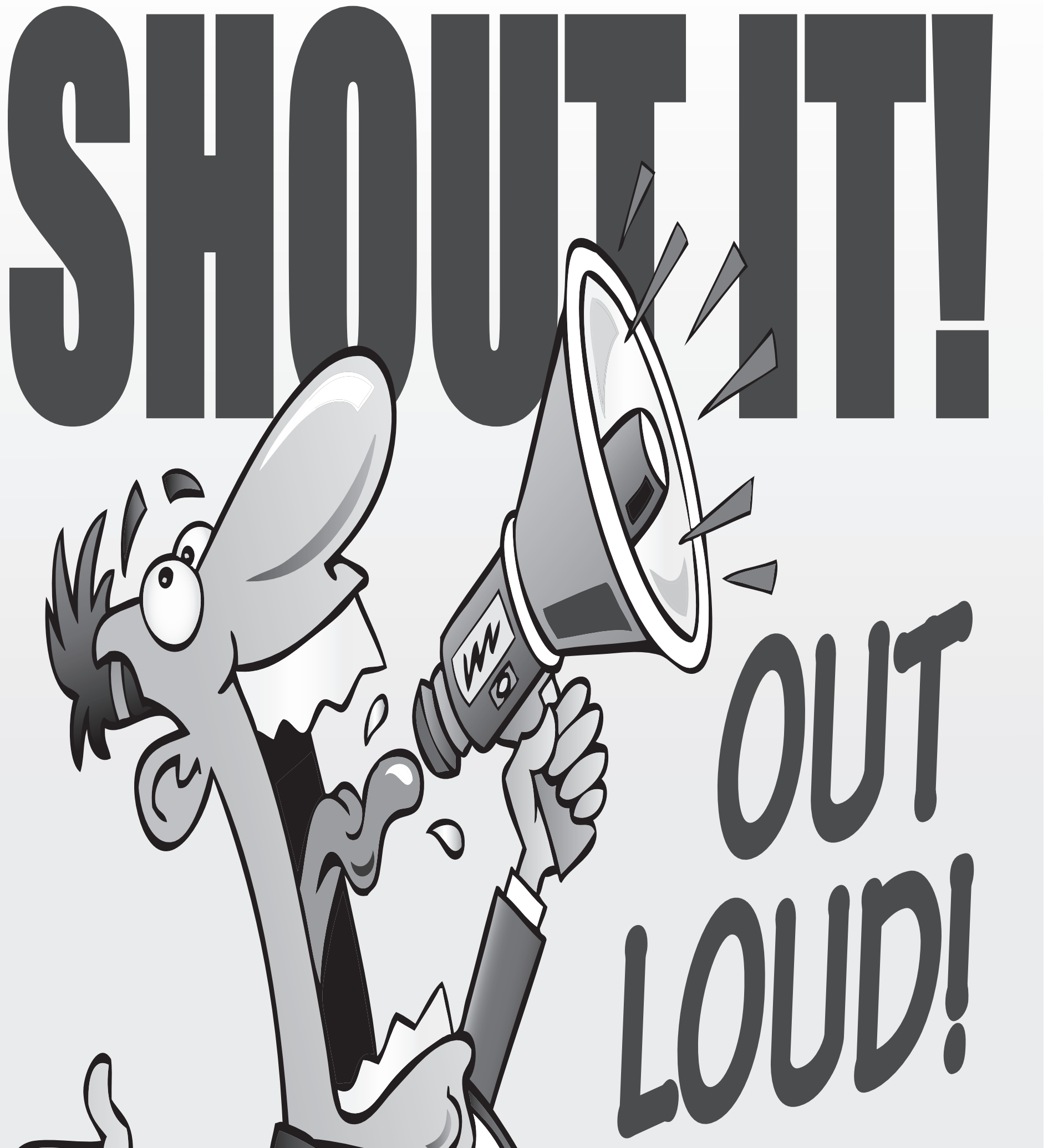



# IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

# Siemans In Bridgman

# 45th ANNIVERSARY USED VEHICLE SALE

## 2017 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 28K Miles, Power Driver's Seat, Touchscreen Display, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Billet Silver, C20323A

**Now $25,930**

## 2017 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

3.5 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, 25K Miles, Chrome Step Bars, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Power Heated Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Trailer Tow Package, Pro Trailer Back-Up Assist, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Race Red, F20462A

**Now $38,995**

## 2014 FORD TAURUS LIMITED

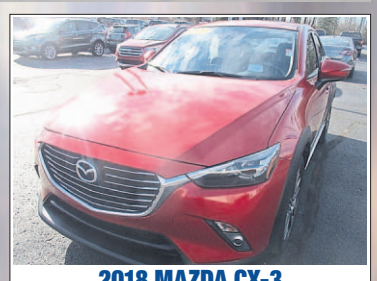
3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Painted Aluminum Wheels, 56K Miles, Remote Start, SYNC, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Seating, Auto Climate Control, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Sterling Gray, F20434A

**Now $13,561**

## 2020 MAZDA CX-30 SELECT AWD

2.5 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, Less Than 2,000 Miles! Leather Seating, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Mazda Certified! Soul Red Crystal, S20017

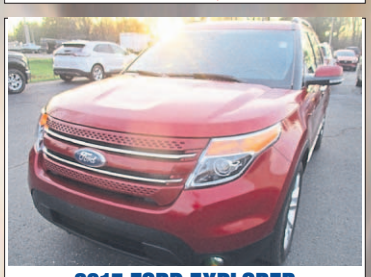
**Now $23,500**



## 2018 MAZDA CX-3 GRAND TOURING AWD

2.0 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 41K Miles, Navigation, Leather Heated Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, CD-Player, Blind Spot Monitor, Cross-Traffic Alert, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Soul Red Metallic, C21036A

**Now $20,271**



## 2015 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 72K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Memory Power Adjust Pedals, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, 3rd Row Power-Fold Seats, Dual Panel Moon Roof, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Ruby Red, U20198A

**Now $21,868**

## 2018 FORD ESCAPE SE 4X4

1.5 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, Only 19K Miles! SYNC 3, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Panoramic Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magnetic, U20214

**Now $20,607**

## 2017 GMC SIERRA 1500 EXTENDED CAB 4X4

5.3 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 40K Miles, Bed Liner, Step Bars, Power Windows and Locks, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Black, C20318A

**Now $30,853**

## 2018 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SAHARA 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 41K Miles, Remote Start, Black 3-Piece Hard Top, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Touch Screen Display, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Granite, C21052A

**Now $38,470**

## 2018 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 REGULAR CAB 4X2

4.3 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Styled Steel Wheels, 51K Miles, Security Cover, Running Boards, Rear Step Bumper, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Race Red, C21068A

**Now $20,912**

## 2013 FORD ESCAPE SEL 4X4

2.0 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 143K Miles, Remote Starf, SEL Technology Package, SYNC, Memory Power Driver's Seat, Leather Heated Front Seats, Dual Climate Control, Rear Park Aid, Power Lift Gate, Car Smart Checked! Ginger Ale, U20213A

**Now $9,844**

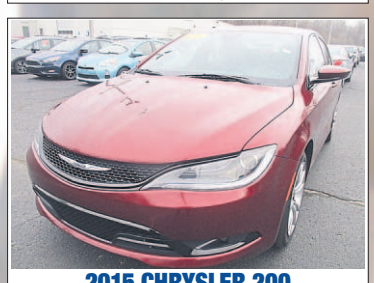
## 2012 HYUNDAI SONATA GLS

**SOLD!**

## 2019 FORD ESCAPE SE 4X4

1.5 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, Only 12K Miles! Remote Start, SYNC 3, Power Driver's Seats, Heated Front Seats, Auto Climate Control, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magnetic, C21018A

**Now $21,793**



## 2015 CHRYSLER 200 S

2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 65K Miles, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Touchscreen Display, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Chrysler Certified! Velvet Red, F20460A

**Now $13,733**

## 2019 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE PLUS 4X4

2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 45K Miles, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Panoramic Moon Roof, Blind Spot Monitor, Rear Parking Aid, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Olive Green, C20196A

**Now $22,335**

## 2018 CHEVY EQUINOX LT AWD

1.5 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 35K Miles, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, Touch Screen Display, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Summit White, U20218

**Now $19,995**

## 2018 JEEP COMPASS TRAILHAWK 4X4

2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 20K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Power Driver's Seat, Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Panoramic Moon Roof, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Orange Spitfire, C20328A

**Now $24,354**

## 2015 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE SUMMIT 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 59K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Panoramic Moon Roof, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Park Assist System, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Brilliant Black, C21079A

**Now $26,897**

## 2018 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE PLUS

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 47K Miles, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, 2nd Row Stow 'N Go Bucket Seats, 3rd Row Stow 'N Go with Tailgate Seats, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry, Dodge Certified! Octane Red, F20389A

**Now $17,473**

## 2017 JEEP COMPASS TRAILHAWK 4X4

2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, Less Thank 12K Miles! Remote Start, Navigation, Power Driver's Seat, Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Laser Blue Pearl, U20225

**Now $24,902**

## 2015 CHEVY EQUINOX LS

2.4 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 77K Miles, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Summit White, Car Smart Checked! U20141B

**Now $13,310**

## 2016 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLE EXTENDED CAB 4X4

5.3 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 83K Miles, Remote Start, Bed Liner, Running Boards, Power Heated Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Stone Blue Metallic, F20442A

**Now $28,735**

## 2014 JEEP PATRIOT LATITUDE

2.4 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 47K Miles, Remote Start, Heated Front Seats, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Billet Silver, C20139A

**Now $12,524**

## 2018 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SPORT 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 15K Miles, Remote Start, Black 3-Piece Hard Top, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Touchscreen Display, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Firecracker Red, C20065A

**Now $36,293**

## 2016 RAM 2500 LARAMIE DIESEL CREW CAB 4X4

6.7 Cummins Turbo DIESEL EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 69K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Security Cover, Bed Liner, Running Boards, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Memory Power Adjust Pedals, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ram Certified! Bright White, C21070A

**Now $46,999**

## 2016 HONDA ODYSSEY SPECIAL EDITION

3.5 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Aluminum Wheels, 71K Miles, Power Front Seats, Power Sliding Side Doors, DVD Entertainment System, CD-Player, Auto Climate Control, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Burgundy, F20504A

**Now $19,531**

## 2017 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE 4X4

2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 30K Miles, Remote Start, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Touchscreen Display, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Bright White, U20220

**Now $20,913**

## 2018 RAM 1500 BIG HORN CREW CAB 4X4

5.7 V8 HEMI EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 28K Miles, Remote Start, Bed Liner, Heated Front Seats, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Steering Wheel, Park Assist System, Back-Up Camera, Trailer Brake Controller, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ram Certified! Bright White, U20229

**Now $34,967**

## 2008 RAM 1500 SLT BIG HORN CREW CAB 4X4

5.7 V8 HEMI EFI Engine, 5 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 223K Miles, Bed Liner, Running Boards, Power Driver's Seat, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Cool Vanilla, F20278A

**Now $7,495**

## 2014 RAM 1500 OUTDOORSMAN REW CAB 4X4

5.7 V8 HEMI EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 84K Miles, Navigation, Security Cover, Bed Liner, Running Boards, Power Driver's Seat, Park Assist, Back-Up Camera, Touchscreen Display, Remote Keyless Entry System, Bright Silver, C21019B

**Now $24,499**

## 2013 RAM 1500 EXPRESS CREW CAB 4X4

5.7 V8 HEMI EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 85K Miles, Security Cover, Bed Liner, Remote Keyless Entry System, Mineral Gray, C20065H

**Now $20,948**

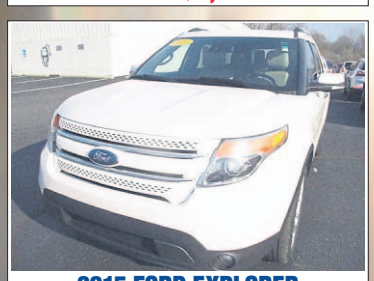
## 2013 FORD ESCAPE SE 4X4

1.6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 80K Miles, SYNC, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ruby Red, U20219A

**Now $10,985**

## 2010 FORD ESCAPE XLT 4X4

**SOLD!**



## 2015 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED 4X4

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 144K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Dual Panel Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Lane Departure/Keep Assist, Blind Spot Monitor, Active Park Assist, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, White Platinum, F21050A

**Now $15,971**

## 2004 MAZDA TRIBUTE ES 4X4

3.0 V6 EFI Engine, 4 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 166K Miles, Power Driver's Seat, Leather Heated Seating, Power Moon Roof, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Glacier Silver, M20010A

**Now $4,180**

## 2016 FORD ESCAPE SE 4X4

1.6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 87K Miles, Power Driver's Seat, CD-Player, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ingot Silver, F20494A

**Now $12,969**

## 2018 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR AWD

3.7 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Steel Wheels, 82K Miles, Ready For The Road Package, 100 Watt Siren and Speaker, Spot Lamp, SYNC, Vinyl Floor Covering, Power Driver's Seat, Remote Keyless Entry System, Shadow Black, F21017A

**Now $17,878**

## 2019 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

2.7 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 10 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, Less than 2,000 Miles! Remote Start, Navigation, Security Cover, Bed Liner, SYNC 3, Chrome Step Bars, Pre-Collision Assist, Back-Up Camera, Power Driver's Seat, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magma Red, F21058A

**Now $39,767**

## TAKING A BATH!

## 2013 TOYOTA CAMRY XLE

3.5 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Aluminum Wheels, 93K Miles, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Black, C21110A

**Now $12,970**

## 2019 RAM 1500 LARAMIE CREW CAB 4X4

5.7 V8 HEMI EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 24K Miles, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Touchscreen Display, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Back-Up Camera, Anti-Spin Differential Rear Axle, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ram Certified, Delmonico Red, C21029A

**Now $45,743**

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# Siemans IN BRIDGMAN

# 45th ANNIVERSARY USED VEHICLE SALE

## 2012 HONDA CIVIC LX

1.8 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Styled Wheel Covers, 146K Miles, Power Windows, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked, Gray, U20140A

**NOW $7,558**

## 2016 MERCEDES 4MATIC GLE350 AWD

3.5 EFI Engine, 7 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Spoked Wheels, 71K Miles, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Front Seating, Power Dual Panel Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Palladium Silver, F20388A

**Was $27,964 NOW $26,915**

## 2017 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 33K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Moon Roof, Touchscreen Display, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Rear Park Assist, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Billet Silver U20174

**Was $31,951 NOW $27,799**

## 2017 HONDA ACCORD EX

2.4 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Aluminum Wheels, 26K Miles, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Silver, F20420A

**Was $20,884 NOW $18,502**

## 2014 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 5 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 73K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, 3-Piece Hard Top, Heated Front Seats, Touchscreen Display, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked, Black U20176

**Was $31,749 NOW $27,136**

## 2017 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE ALTITUDE 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 37K Miles, Remote Start, Power Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Billet Silver U20181

**Was $31,228 NOW $28,880**

## 2018 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 33K Miles, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, Reverse Park Assist with Stop, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Velvet Red, C20223A

**NOW $28,783**

## 2017 FORD EXPLORER PLATINUM 4X4

3.5 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 30K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Adaptive Cruise Control, Front and Rear View Cameras, Lane-Keeping System, Active Park Assist, Reverse Sensing System, Power Lift Gate, Trailer Tow Package, Ford Certified! Shadow Black C20268A

**Was $35,989 NOW $33,935**

## 2013 FORD EDGE SE

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 91K Miles, SYNC, CD-Player, Power Windows and Doors, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Tuxedo Black, F21006A

**NOW $11,587**

## 2015 INFINITI QX70 AWD

3.7 EFI Engine, 7 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 66K Miles, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Seating, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Liquid Platinum, C21009A

**NOW $23,997**

## 2017 CHRYSLER PACIFICA TOURING L PLUS

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 65K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Side Side Doors, DVD Entertainment System, Reverse Park Assist with Stop, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Chrysler Certified! Granite, P21014A

**NOW $23,927**

## 2019 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

2.7 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 10 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, 10K Miles, Security Cover, Bed Liner, Chrome Step Bars, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Power Heated Front Seats, Dynamic Hitch Assist, Pre-Collision Assist, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Ruby Red, F20399A

**Was $39,995 NOW $37,407**

## 2019 FORD F-150 LARIAT SUPERCREW DIESEL 4X4

3.0 V6 EFI Turbo Diesel Engine, 10 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, Only 9K Miles! Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Chrome Step Bars, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Memory Power Adjust Pedals, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Twin Panel Moon Roof, Blind Spot Information System, Reverse Sensing System, Trailer Tow Package, Trailer Tow Monitor, Trailer Back Up Assist, Smart Trailer Tow Connector, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Ruby Red C20246A

**Was $54,990 NOW $51,403**

## 2017 CHRYSLER PACIFICA TOURING-L PLUS

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 51K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Side Side Doors, Power Lift Gate, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Reverse Park Assist, Rear View Camera, DVD Entertainment Center, Remote Keyless Entry System, Chrysler Certified! Tusk White, C20212A

**Was $26,811 NOW $22,225**

## 2017 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCAB 4X4

5.0 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 42K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Security Cover, Bed Liner, Chrome Step Bars, Power Heated Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magnetic, U20210

**NOW $33,987**

## 2019 FORD F-150 LARIAT SUPERCREW 4X4

5.0 V8 EFI Engine, 10 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, 31K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Bed Liner, Chrome Step Bars, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Memory Power Adjust Pedals, Heated Steering Wheel, 2 nd Row Heated Seats, Twin Panel Moon Roof, 360 Degree Camera, Pre-Collision Assist, Blind Spot Monitor with Trailer Towing Monitor, Smart Trailer Tow Connector, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Agate Black, C21013A

**NOW $47,373**

## 2017 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER LIMITED AWD

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Chrome Wheels, 30K Miles, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, Adaptive Cruise Control, Cross Traffic Alert, Blind Spot Monitor, Lane Keeping Assist, Rear Park Assist, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Pre-Dawn Gray Mica, C20303A

**NOW $34,312**

## 2019 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

2.7 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 10 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, Only 13K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Security Cover, Bed Liner, Chrome Step Bars, Power Heated Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Pre-Collision Assist, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Agate Black, U20143A

**NOW $40,498**

## 2017 FORD FOCUS SEL HATCHBACK

2.0 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 58K Miles, Heated Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Kona Blue, M20086A

**Was $13,995 NOW $13,495**

## 2016 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE HIGH ALTITUDE 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 55K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Dual Panel Panoramic Moon Roof, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Trailer Tow Group IV, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Brilliant Black, C20306A

**Was $30,663 NOW $28,520**

## 2017 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 LT 4X4

5.3 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 45K Miles, Remote Start, Bed Liner, Running Boards, Power Driver's Seat, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Gray, U20206

**NOW $32,679**

## 2018 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

2.7 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 10 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, Only 15K Miles! Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Bed Liner, Running Boards, Power Heated Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Shadow Black, C20316A

**Was $39,995 NOW $39,369**

## 2015 DODGE JOURNEY CROSSROAD

2.4 EFI Engine, 4 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 87K Miles, Power Driver's Seat, Leather Trimmed Seating, Three Zone Temp Control, Touchscreen Display, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Vice White, F20334A

**Was $13,904 NOW $12,483**

## 2017 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 35K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Dual Panel Moon Roof, Blind Spot Information System, Forward and Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Hands Free Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Shadow Black, C20219A

**NOW $31,973**

## 2017 KIA SORENTO LX AWD

2.4 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 54K Miles, Cloth Leather Trimmed Seats, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Snow White Pearl, Car Smart Checked! F20446A

**NOW $18,980**

## 2014 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT SE

1.8 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Aluminum Spoked Wheels, 156K Miles, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! White

**Was $9,822 NOW $7,998**

## 2019 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 42K Miles, Remote Start, CD-Player, Power Driver's Seat, Power Slide Side Doors, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Powertrain Factory Warranty! White Knuckle S20013

**Was $20,500 NOW $18,995**

## 2018 BUICK REGAL SPORTBACK ESSENCE

2.0 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 28K Miles, Remote Start, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Auto Climate Control, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Quicksilver Metallic, C20202A

**NOW $20,989**

## 2017 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCAB 4X4

**SOLD!**

## 2018 HONDA FIT EX HATCHBACK, GRAY

1.5 EFI Engine, CVT Automatic, Aluminum Spoked Wheels, 44K Miles, Power Moon Roof, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Gray, F20375A

**Was $16,357 NOW $14,896**

## 2019 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN GT

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 46K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Power Leather Heated Seating, Heated Steering Wheel, Stow 'N Go Seats, Auto Climate Control, Power Slide Side Doors, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Granite S20012

**Was $20,995 NOW $19,995**

## 2017 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4

**SOLD!**

## 2016 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

5.8 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, 45K Miles, Remote Start, SYNC 3, Bed Liner, Chrome Step Bars, Power Heated Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Trailer Tow Group, Pro Trailer Back Up Assist, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Blue Jeans, F20436A

**Was $34,552 NOW $33,305**

## 2017 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER XLE AWD

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 24K Miles, Navigation, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Lane Departure Warning, Blind Spot Monitor, Cross Traffic Alert, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! PreDawn Gray Mica, C20227A

**Was $33,226 NOW $31,298**

## 2017 FORD EXPLORER PLATINUM 4X4

3.5 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Machined Face Wheels, 58K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, 3rd Row Power-Fold Seats, Panoramic Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Adaptive Cruise Control, 180 Degree Front Camera, Lane Keeping System, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Trailer Tow Package, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! White Platinum, F20437A

**Was $33,821 NOW $32,771**

## 2017 FORD ESCAPE TITANIUM

2.0 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, Less Than 15K Miles! Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Auto Climate Control, Blind Spot Monitor, Reverse Sensing System, Active Park Assist System, Rear View Camera, Hands Free Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magnetic, F20400A

**Was $21,455 NOW $19,980**

## 2017 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 65K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheels, Auto Climate Control, Twin Panel Moon Roof, Forward and Reverse Sensing System, Blind Spot Information System, Back-Up Camera, Hands Free Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! White Platinum, C20076A

**Was $27,999 NOW $24,929**

## 2015 GMC YUKON DENALI 4X4

6.2 V8 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Spoked Wheels, 58K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Running Boards, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, 2nd Heated Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Power Moon Roof, DVD Entertainment System, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Black, C20305A

**Was $40,827 NOW $39,156**

## 2017 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

2.7 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, 36K Miles, Chrome Step Bars, Power Driver' Seat, Power Adjust Pedals, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Shadow Black, C20162A

**Was $36,625 NOW $34,907**

## 2018 FORD EDGE TITANIUM AWD

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 24K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Panoramic Moon Roof, Adaptive Cruise Control, Collision Warning, Lane Keeping System, Front 180 Degree Camera, Blind Spot Monitor, Reverse Sensing System, Active Park Assist, Hands Free Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Blue Metallic, F20463A

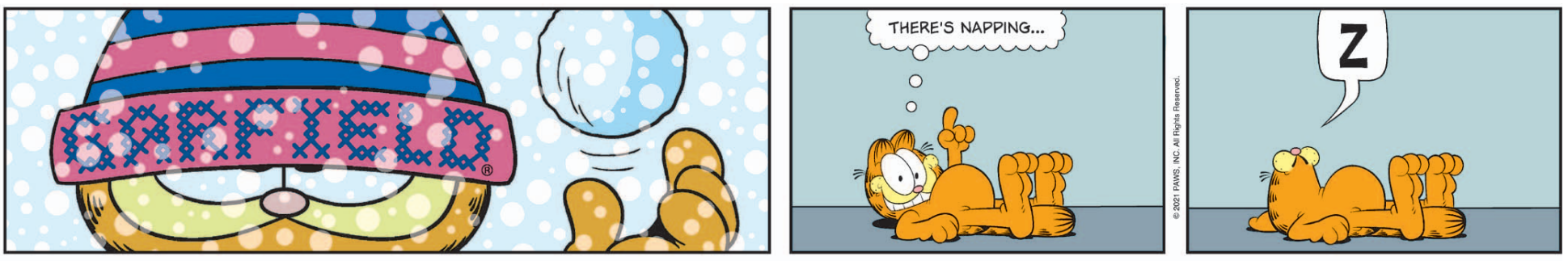
**NOW $29,918**

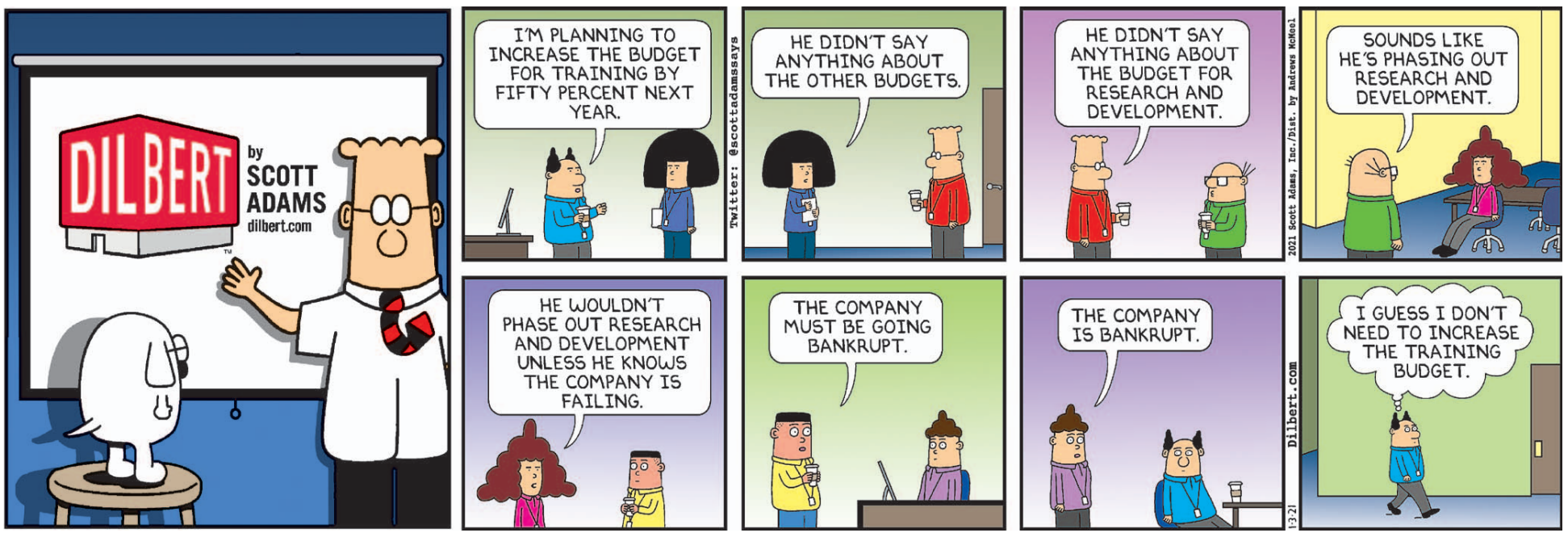
**8961 Red Arrow Hwy**
**Bridgman, MI**
**269-465-5344 or 269-925-3673**

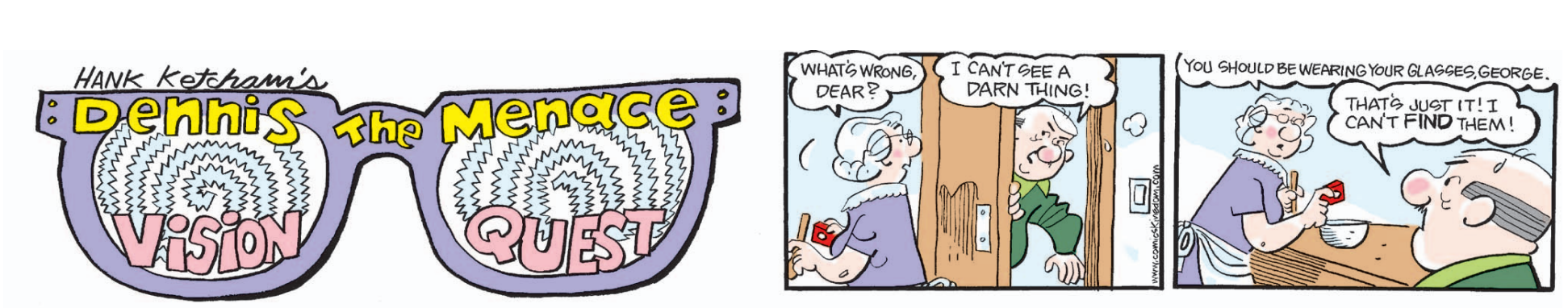
**www.siemansinbridgman.com**
**Sales Dept. Hours: Mon, Thurs 9-8,**
**Tues, Wed, Fri 9-6, Sat 9-4**

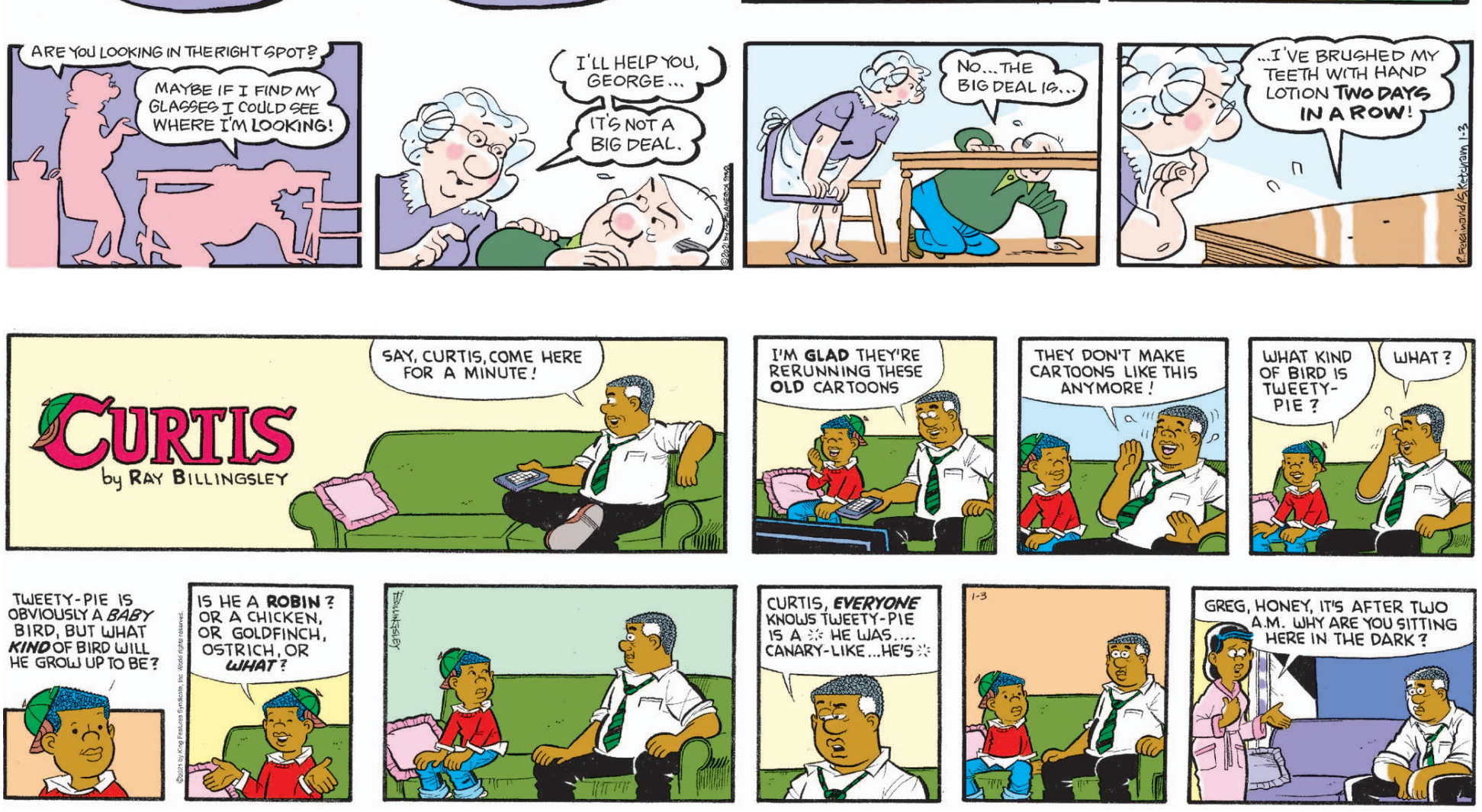
# Weekend Comics

JAN. 2-3, 2021

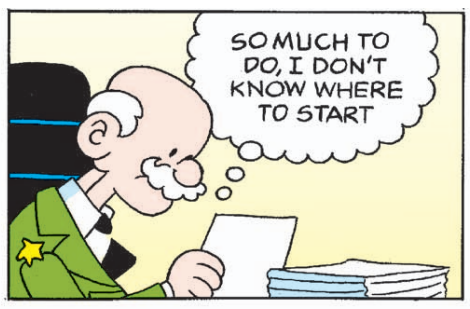


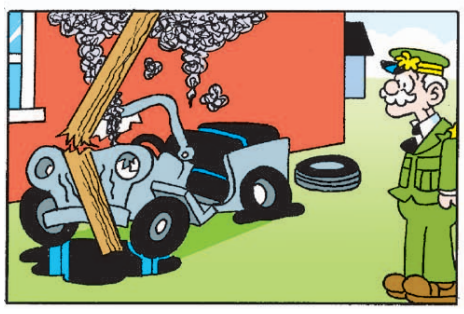


DILBERT
by SCOTT ADAMS
dilbert.com
I'M PLANNING TO INCREASE THE BUDGET FOR TRAINING BY FIFTY PERCENT NEXT YEAR.
HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE OTHER BUDGETS.
HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE BUDGET FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.
SOUNDS LIKE HE'S PHASING OUT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.
Twitter: @scottadamssays
2021 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel
HE WOULDN'T PHASE OUT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT UNLESS HE KNOWS THE COMPANY IS FAILING.
THE COMPANY MUST BE GOING BANKRUPT.
THE COMPANY IS BANKRUPT.
I GUESS I DON'T NEED TO INCREASE THE TRAINING BUDGET.
Dilbert.com
1-3-21

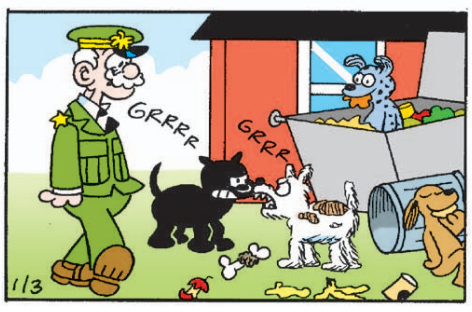

HANK Ketcham's
Dennis the Menace
VISION QUEST
WHAT'S WRONG, DEAR?
I CAN'T SEE A DARN THING!
YOU SHOULD BE WEARING YOUR GLASSES, GEORGE.
THAT'S JUST IT! I CAN'T FIND THEM!
ARE YOU LOOKING IN THE RIGHT SPOT?
MAYBE IF I FIND MY GLASSES I COULD SEE WHERE I'M LOOKING!
I'LL HELP YOU, GEORGE...
IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL.
NO...THE BIG DEAL IS...
...I'VE BRUSHED MY TEETH WITH HAND LOTION TWO DAYS IN A ROW!
©2021 by HANK KETCHAM & CO.
Fred Wray/Ketcham 1-3

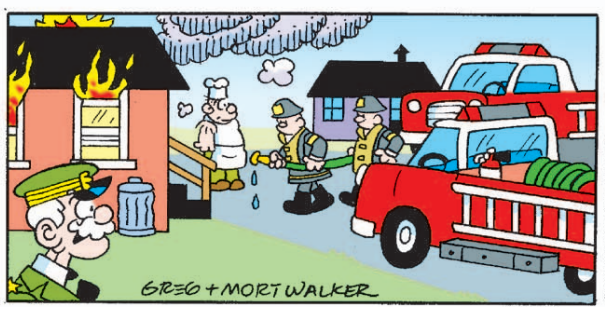

CURTIS
by RAY BILLINGSLEY
SAY, CURTIS, COME HERE FOR A MINUTE!
I'M GLAD THEY'RE RERUNNING THESE OLD CARTOONS
THEY DON'T MAKE CARTOONS LIKE THIS ANYMORE!
WHAT KIND OF BIRD IS TWEETY-PIE?
WHAT?
TWEETY-PIE IS OBVIOUSLY A BABY BIRD, BUT WHAT KIND OF BIRD WILL HE GROW UP TO BE?
IS HE A ROBIN? OR A CHICKEN, OR GOLDFINCH, OSTRICH, OR WHAT?
©2021 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
CURTIS, EVERYONE KNOWS TWEETY-PIE IS A ☼ HE WAS.... CANARY-LIKE...HE'S ☼
1-3
GREG, HONEY, IT'S AFTER TWO A.M. WHY ARE YOU SITTING HERE IN THE DARK?

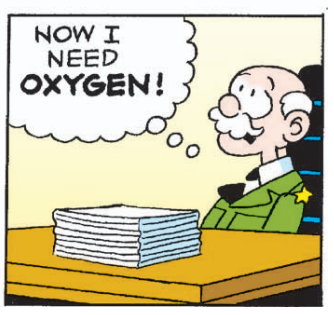
## Mort Walker's beetle bailey®





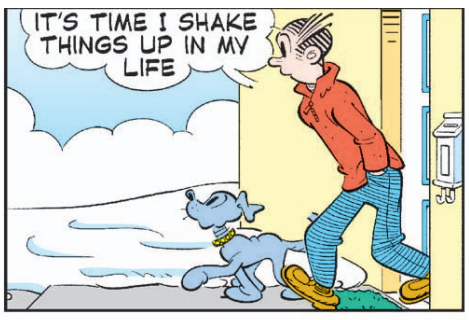


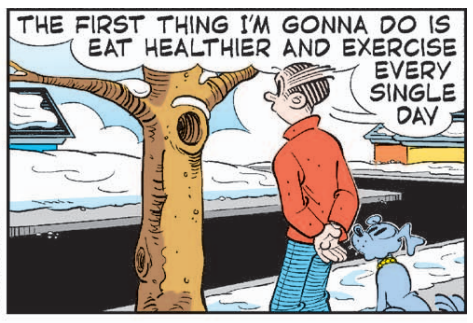



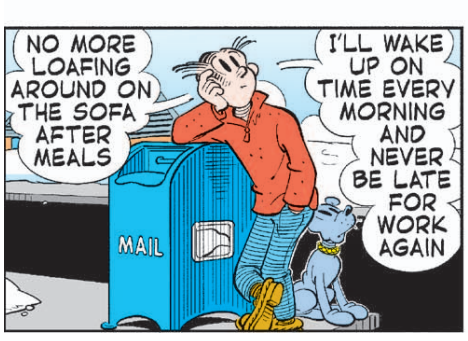



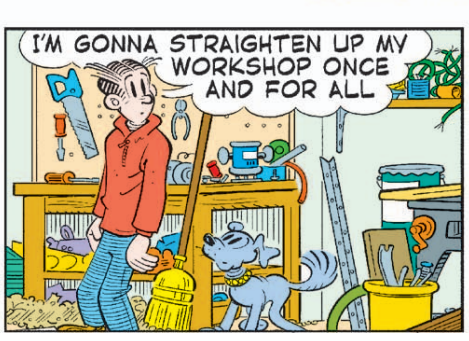

## BLONDIE®

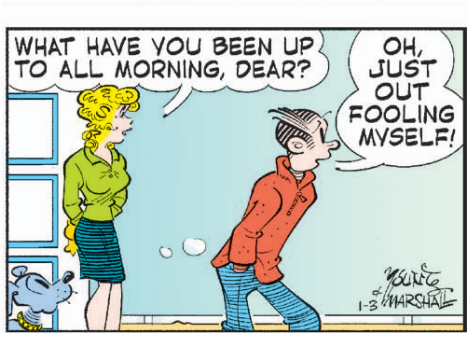
BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL








## MUTTS

2021

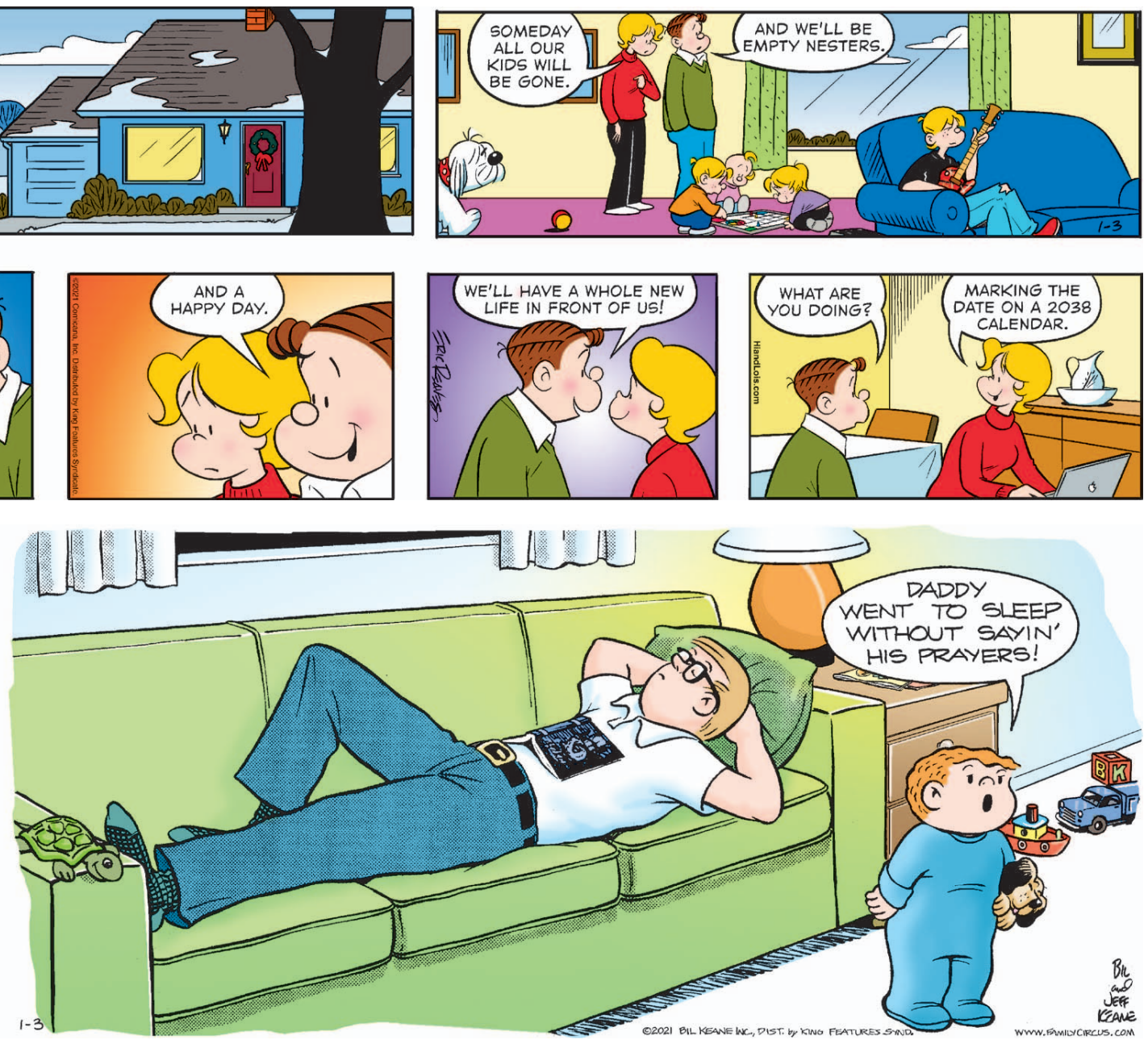
HAPPY NEW YEAR, MOOCH!
A NEW YEAR IS NOT ENOUGH.
WE NEED TO RING IN NEW EYES! NEW EARS!
NEW HANDS! NEW FEET!
A NEW MIND!
A NEW BACKBONE!
A NEW SOUL.
WOW. THIS IS GOING TO BE SOME YEAR.
HA! WHAT ELSE IS NEW?
MUTTS © 2021 PATRICK MCDONNELL · DISTRIBUTED BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE
1-3

## Hi and Lois

by BRIAN and GREG WALKER

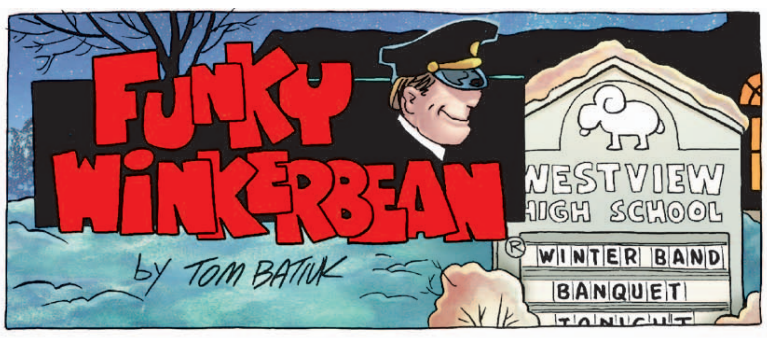
## The FAMILY CIRCUS®

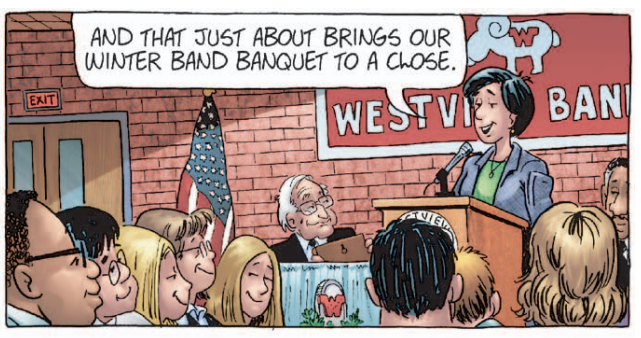
BY BIL KEANE



## FUNKY WINKERBEAN

by TOM BATIUK



IT'S THE GOLDEN DINKLE AWARD...
Golden Dinkle AWARD
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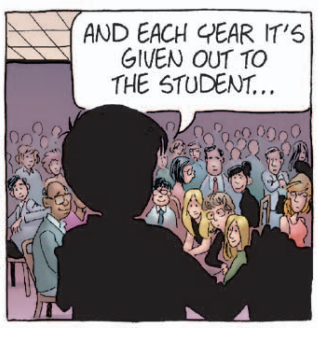
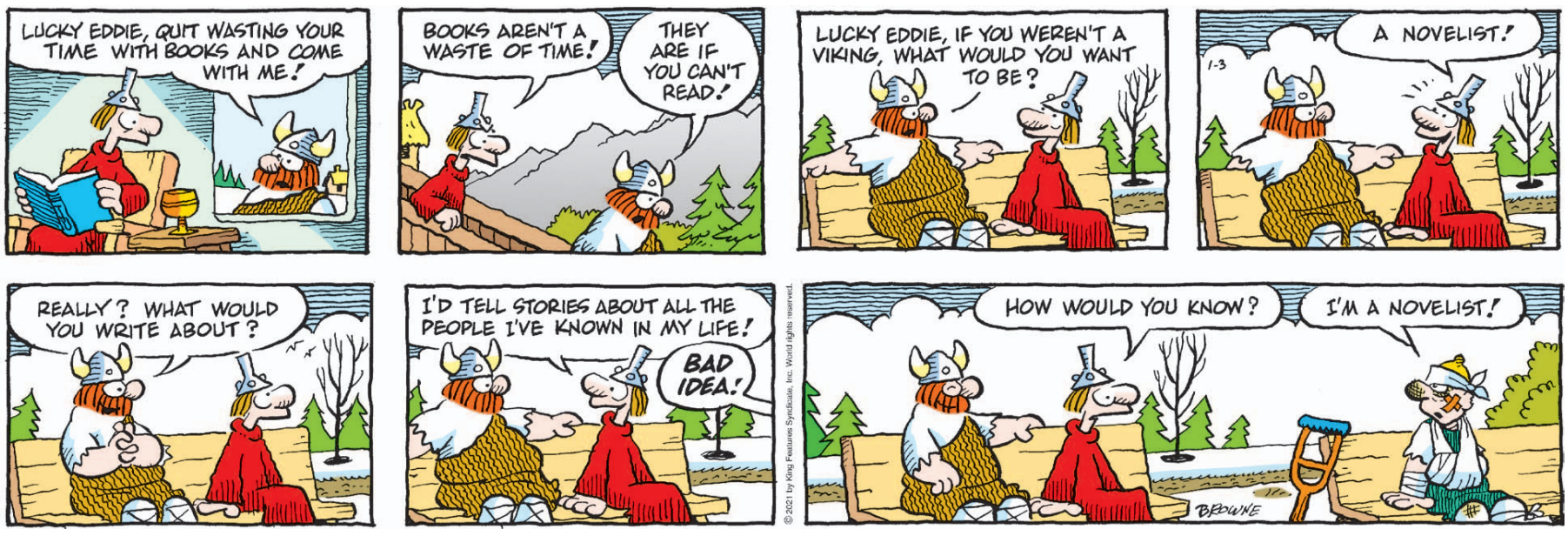
1-3



WHO RETURNED EVERY SINGLE PIECE OF THEIR UNIFORM FOLLOWING MARCHING BAND SEASON!
Golden Dinkle AWARD
WESTVIEW
funkywinkerbean.com/books

# HAGAR the horrible

by DIK BROWNE


LUCKY EDDIE, QUIT WASTING YOUR TIME WITH BOOKS AND COME WITH ME!
BOOKS AREN'T A WASTE OF TIME!
THEY ARE IF YOU CAN'T READ!
LUCKY EDDIE, IF YOU WEREN'T A VIKING, WHAT WOULD YOU WANT TO BE?
1-3
A NOVELIST!
REALLY? WHAT WOULD YOU WRITE ABOUT?
I'D TELL STORIES ABOUT ALL THE PEOPLE I'VE KNOWN IN MY LIFE!
BAD IDEA!
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW?
I'M A NOVELIST!
BROWNE
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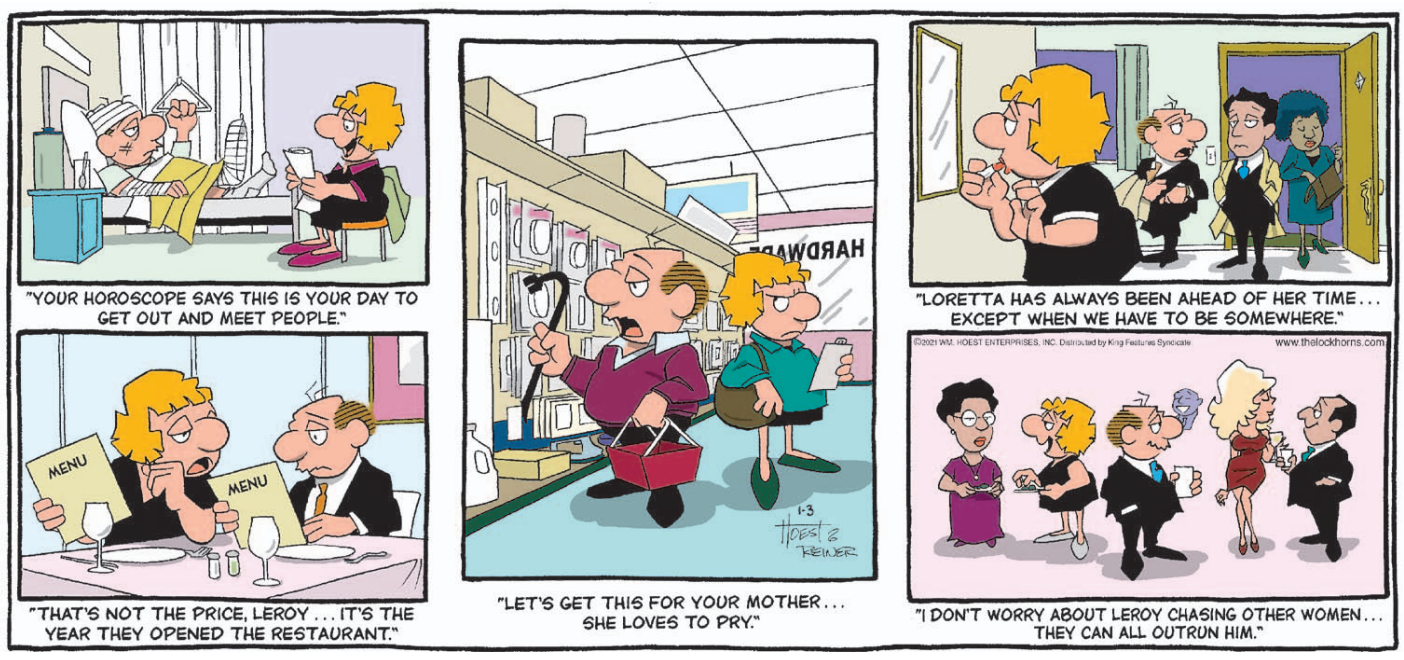
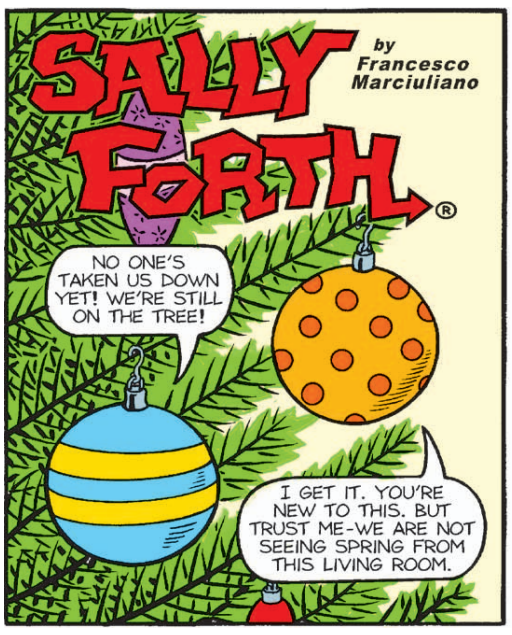
# THE LOCKHORNS

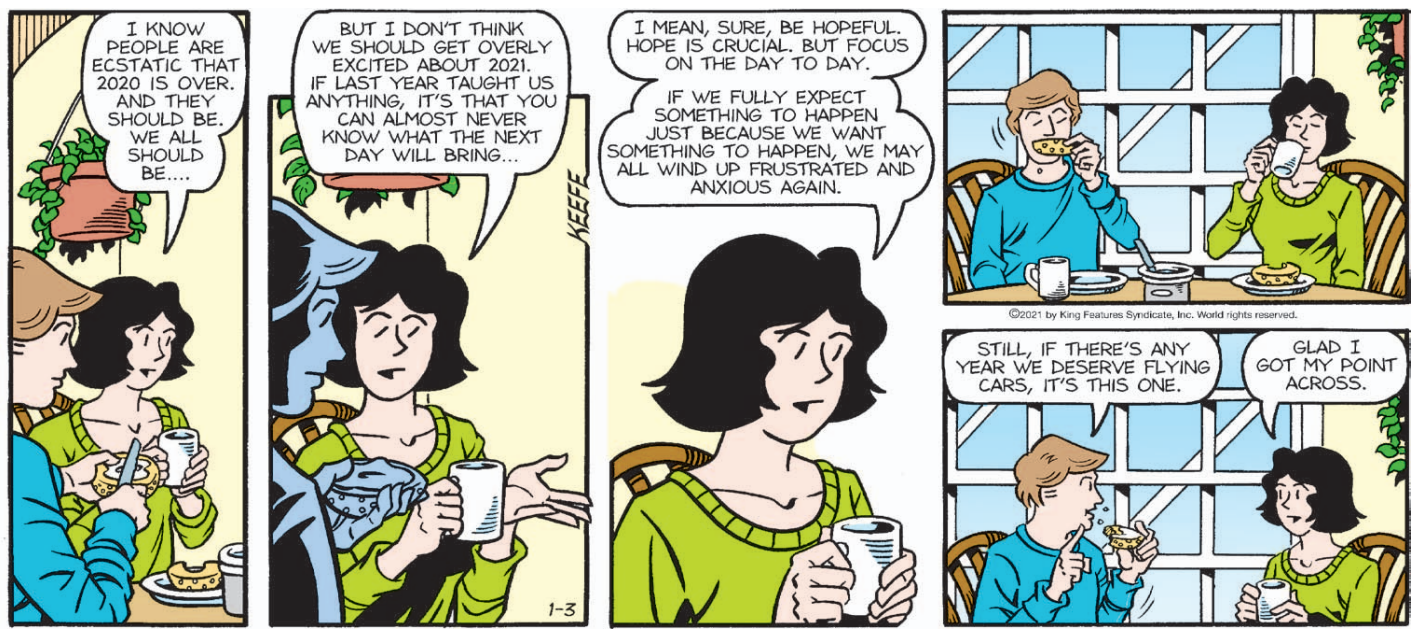
BY BUNNY HOEST AND JOHN REINER


"YOUR HOROSCOPE SAYS THIS IS YOUR DAY TO GET OUT AND MEET PEOPLE."
"LORETTA HAS ALWAYS BEEN AHEAD OF HER TIME... EXCEPT WHEN WE HAVE TO BE SOMEWHERE."
MENU
MENU
"THAT'S NOT THE PRICE, LEROY... IT'S THE YEAR THEY OPENED THE RESTAURANT."
HARDWARE
1-3
HOEST & REINER
"LET'S GET THIS FOR YOUR MOTHER... SHE LOVES TO PRY."
©2021 WM. HOEST ENTERPRISES, INC. Distributed by King Features Syndicate.
www.thelockhorns.com
"I DON'T WORRY ABOUT LEROY CHASING OTHER WOMEN... THEY CAN ALL OUTRUN HIM."

# SALLY FORTH®

by Francesco Marciuliano


NO ONE'S TAKEN US DOWN YET! WE'RE STILL ON THE TREE!
I GET IT. YOU'RE NEW TO THIS. BUT TRUST ME-WE ARE NOT SEEING SPRING FROM THIS LIVING ROOM.


I KNOW PEOPLE ARE ECSTATIC THAT 2020 IS OVER. AND THEY SHOULD BE. WE ALL SHOULD BE....
BUT I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD GET OVERLY EXCITED ABOUT 2021. IF LAST YEAR TAUGHT US ANYTHING, IT'S THAT YOU CAN ALMOST NEVER KNOW WHAT THE NEXT DAY WILL BRING...
KEEFE
1-3
I MEAN, SURE, BE HOPEFUL. HOPE IS CRUCIAL. BUT FOCUS ON THE DAY TO DAY.
IF WE FULLY EXPECT SOMETHING TO HAPPEN JUST BECAUSE WE WANT SOMETHING TO HAPPEN, WE MAY ALL WIND UP FRUSTRATED AND ANXIOUS AGAIN.
STILL, IF THERE'S ANY YEAR WE DESERVE FLYING CARS, IT'S THIS ONE.
GLAD I GOT MY POINT ACROSS.
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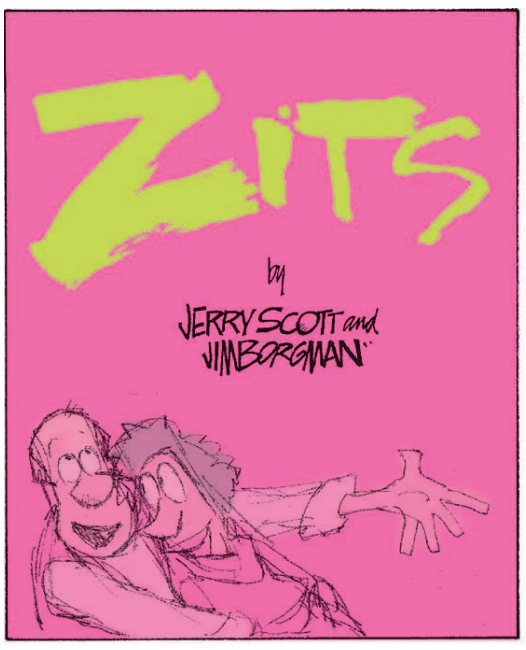
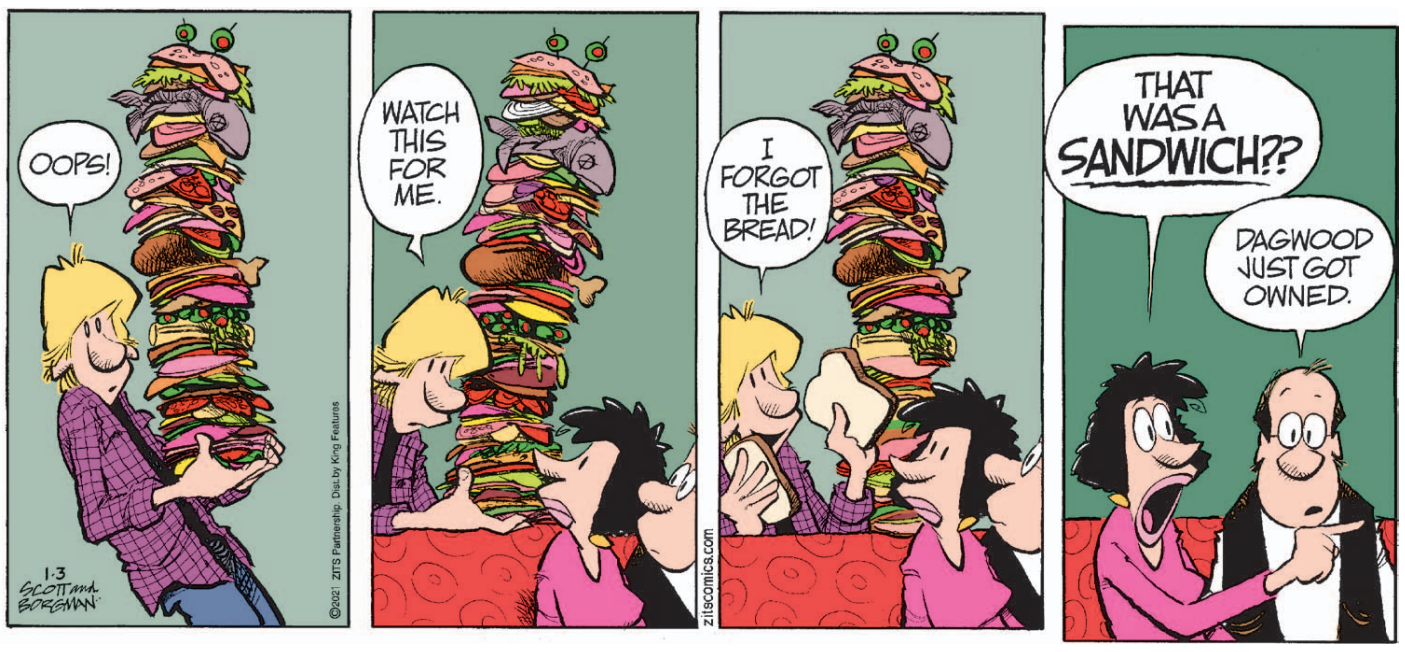
# ZITS

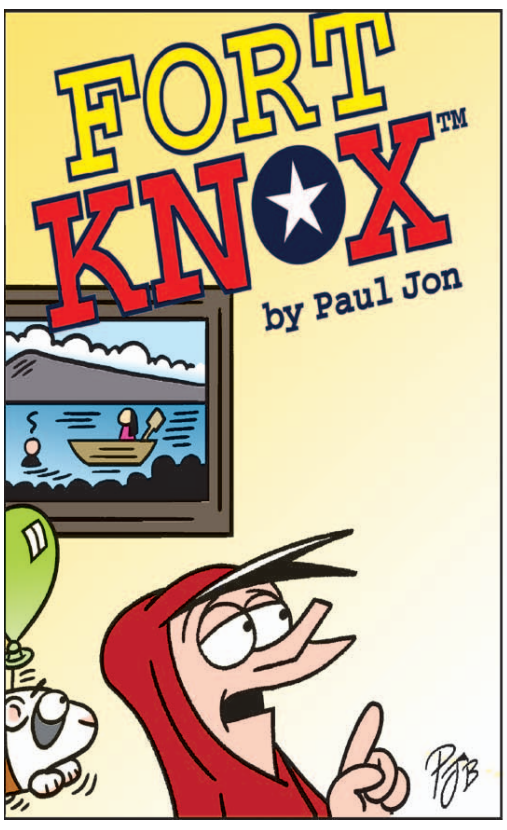
by JERRY SCOTT and JIM BORGMAN






# FORT KNOX™

by Paul Jon


THE HOLIDAYS ARE FINALLY OVER.
YES, IT'S NICE TO HAVE SOME PEACE AND QUIET.
21 is here!
AMEN TO THAT... WE CAN NOW FOCUS ON THE NEW YEAR WITHOUT ANY ADDED HOLIDAY PRESSURE.
WE SURVIVED THE CHAOS OF THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S.
BUH-BYE 2020
Hola 2021
1/03
WITH ONE EXCEPTION.
WHICH IS?
CALL BAK SOON
IT'S TIME TO RELAX AND GET BACK TO EVERYDAY LIFE.
VALENTINE'S DAY!!
Love is Here
Valentine's Day Sale
BUY! BUY!
Read new comics daily in The Washington Post and join us at www.Facebook.com/FortKnoxComics
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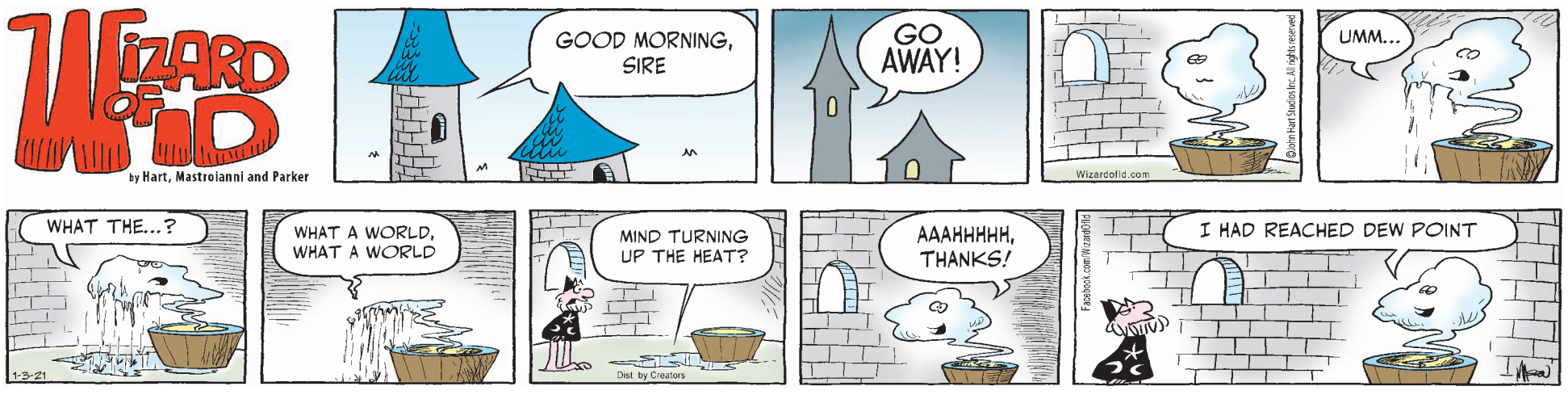
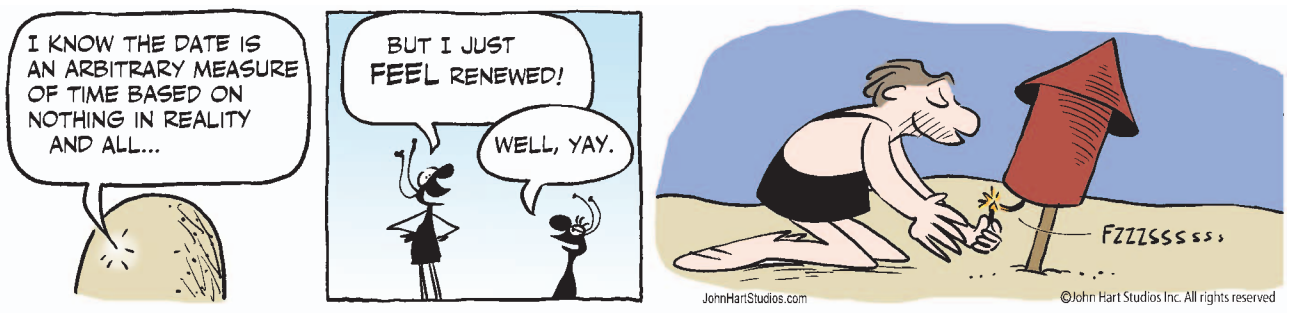
# WIZARD OF ID

by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker



# BC

BY MASTROIANNI AND HART


I KNOW THE DATE IS AN ARBITRARY MEASURE OF TIME BASED ON NOTHING IN REALITY AND ALL...
BUT I JUST FEEL RENEWED!
WELL, YAY.
FZZZSSSSS.
JohnHartStudios.com
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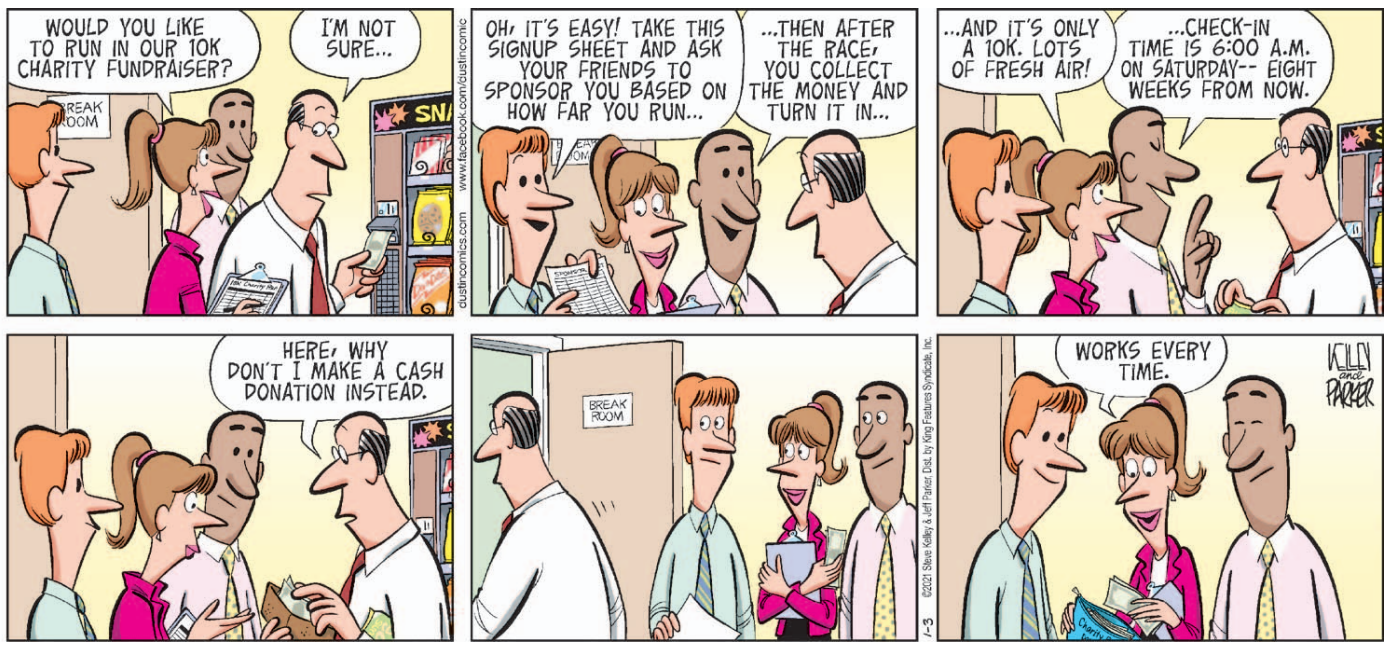
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
DUDE! IT'S THE 3RD!
OH, WE'RE GONNA BE CELEBRATING THIS ONE FOR A WHILE!
1-3-21 Dist. by Creators
Facebook.com/BCcomic

# BIZARRO

BY DAN PIRARO

# DUSTIN

By STEVE KELLEY and JEFF PARKER


WOULD YOU LIKE TO RUN IN OUR 10K CHARITY FUNDRAISER?
I'M NOT SURE...
OH, IT'S EASY! TAKE THIS SIGNUP SHEET AND ASK YOUR FRIENDS TO SPONSOR YOU BASED ON HOW FAR YOU RUN...
...THEN AFTER THE RACE, YOU COLLECT THE MONEY AND TURN IT IN...
...AND IT'S ONLY A 10K. LOTS OF FRESH AIR!
...CHECK-IN TIME IS 6:00 A.M. ON SATURDAY-- EIGHT WEEKS FROM NOW.
HERE, WHY DON'T I MAKE A CASH DONATION INSTEAD.
BREAK ROOM
WORKS EVERY TIME.
dustincomics.com
www.facebook.com/dustincomic
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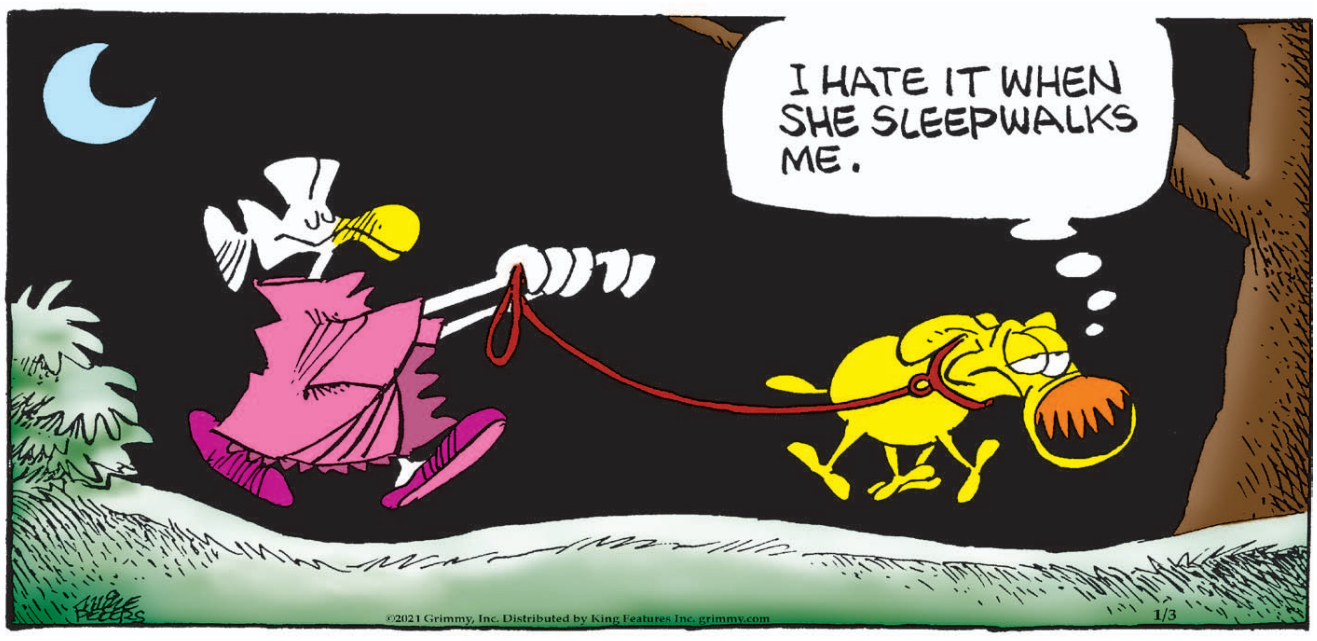
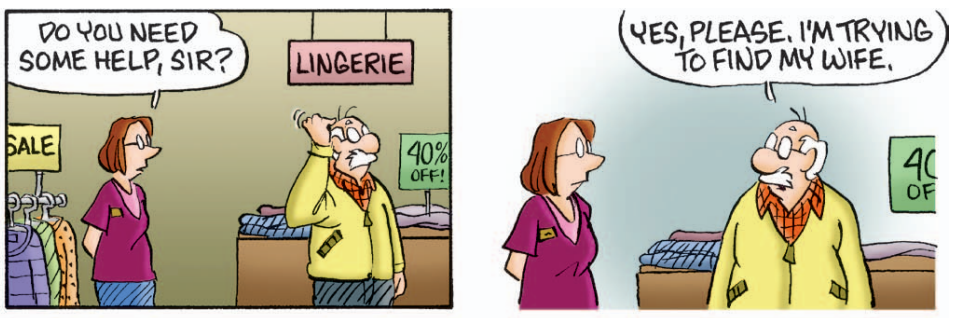
1-3

# MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

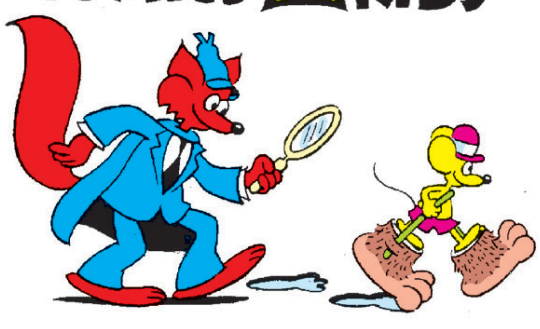



# PICKLES

by BRIAN CRANE

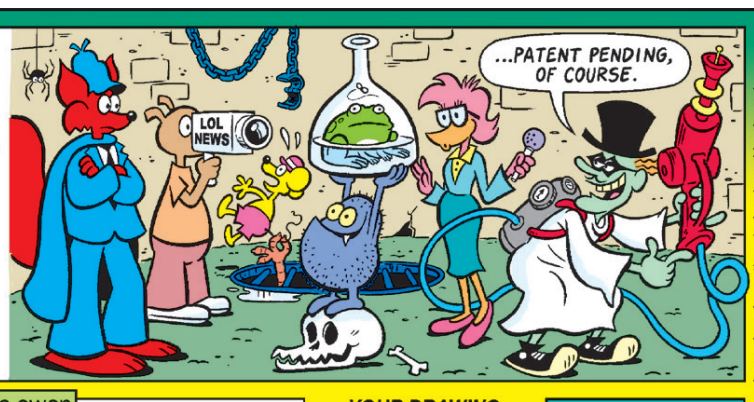

DO YOU NEED SOME HELP, SIR?
LINGERIE
SALE
40% OFF!
YES, PLEASE. I'M TRYING TO FIND MY WIFE.
CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT SHE'S WEARING?
UH...I HAVE NO IDEA.
WHAT KIND OF HAIRDO DOES SHE HAVE?
WELL, IT'S KIND OF... I DON'T KNOW.
OKAY, WELL, WHAT'S HER NAME?
1/3
OOH! GIVE ME A SEC... I KNOW THIS ONE!
picklescomic.com
© 2021 Brian Crane, dist. by Washington Post Writers Group

# Bob Weber Jr.'s SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

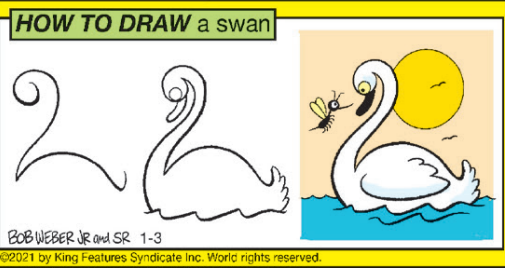


Count Weirdly claims he invented a device that can make an object disappear and then reappear in another location. He says his first object of transport was a frog. Slylock Fox strongly suspects the count's claims are a hoax. How does Slylock think the frog passed through the thin flask neck?

Solution -- Slylock thinks Weirdly may have slipped a tadpole into the flask, and over time it grew into a frog.




**HOW TO DRAW** a swan



BOB WEBER JR and SR 1-3

**YOUR DRAWING**

Today's terrific artist is Silas, age 9

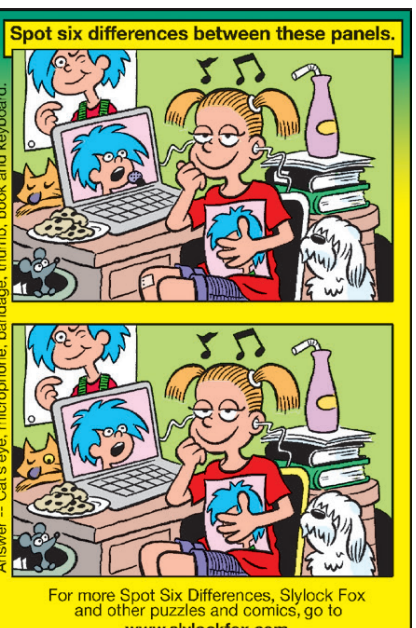
Submit your black-and-white drawing to **www.slylockfox.com**

A group of frogs is called a ...

a) Herd
b) Swarm
c) Army
d) Band
e) Mess

Answer -- c)

**Spot six differences between these panels.**



Answer -- Cat's eye, microphone, bandage, thumb, book and keyboard.

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